BRITISH MUSEUM

JOHN BULL

Vol. VI. No. 147 SATURDAY, MARCH 27, 1909. ONE PENNY.

[Registered at the G.P.O. as a Newspaper]

For meaning of this number see page iii. of cover.

No. 265009

The world is a bundle of hay;
Mankind are the asses who pull;
Each tugs it a different way,
And the greatest of all is John Bull

—BYRON.

Edited by
HORATIO BOTTOMLEY.

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OLD FRIENDS WITH NEW FACES.

There is no more agreeable experience than to come upon an old friend who has somehow left his ailments behind him, and now looks the picture of restored manhood. The old haggard expression, the suggestion of premature old age, the appearance of weakness and lassitude, the irritability and tendency to melancholy views have vanished. He now, indeed, seems a new man with pure healthy blood flowing in his veins, and contentment written on his face. He is again fully alive and enjoys life instead of simply enduring it. If you enquire what it is that has wrought such a striking change for the better, to what medicine or system your friend attributes his return to health and vigour, it is more than probable that he will answer in two words—

BEECHAM'S PILLS

Prepared only by THOMAS BEECHAM, St Helens, Lancs. Sold everywhere in boxes, price 1/1½ (56 pills) and 2/9 (168 pills).

NO LIMIT NO LIMIT NO LIMIT

Would you like to open a

CREDIT ACCOUNT

WITH AN

ABSOLUTELY RELIABLE TURF ACCOUNTANT?

IF SO, WRITE TO . . .

Douglas Stuart,

102-104, NEW OXFORD ST., LONDON, W.,

stating your requirements fully, and I will answer by return.

NO LIMIT.
NO DEDUCTIONS.
PROMPT MONDAY SETTLEMENTS.
PLACE BETTING when Favourite starts "Odds On."

THE SPORTSMAN, says:—
"Mr. Douglas Stuart has 'NO LIMIT,' and, moreover, allows 'PLACE BETTING,' even when the favourite starts 'ODDS ON,' which is a point distinctly in favour of the backer. Mr. Douglas Stuart has found from experience that settling by the *Sportsman's* prices is fair to both sides, and he will abide by them. He will forward one of his neat little pocket diaries, free of charge, to 'Clients.'"

From Sportsman, Feb. 5, 1909.

WRITE TO-DAY, AS ABOVE, FOR TERMS.

BANKERS:—
LONDON & WESTMINSTER, St. James Square,
LONDON CITY & MIDLAND, Mayfair.

THE
OLD ORIGINAL
and WORLD-FAMOUS
LUNG TONIC is OWBRIDGE'S,
FOR
COUGHS & COLDS.
The most up-to-date, best known
and
most successful Remedy in the World
for
THROAT and CHEST TROUBLES
arising from Damp or Chill.

Owbridge's

Lung Tonic.

Ask for "OWBRIDGE," and take no substitute.
This is the Best, Cheapest, and Safest way to recovery.
Invaluable to SPEAKERS, SINGERS, and all who suffer from THROAT WEAKNESS.
Established 1874.

CAUTION.—Do not waste money on so-called lung tonics, which appear to be cheap, but of which you have to take double doses, with disappointing results.

Prepared by
W. T. OWBRIDGE, Ltd., Hull.
Sold everywhere in bottles, at 1s. 1½d., 2s. 9d., 4s. 6d. & 11s.

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What is Your Number?

OUR WEEKLY BALLOT FOR 50 HELPERS AT A GUINEA APIECE.

Every copy of JOHN BULL bears upon its cover a distinctive number, and every week FIFTY of such numbers will be drawn and published on this page.

To each of the holders of copies of JOHN BULL of specified date bearing any of such numbers we will, upon production of a sufficient portion of the cover to identify the date and number, pay the sum of ONE GUINEA, in return for his (or her) using his best endeavour for one week to increase our circulation.

The following claims have been received for the issues of January 30th, February 6th and 13th:—

GEORGE DELANY, 10, Warwick Road, Choriton-cum-Hardy, Manchester. (No. 136786—January 30th.)

G. H. BERDELL, 67, Waverley Road, Paddington. (No. 90178—February 6th.)

J. E. CHILD, 80, Woodrife Road, Leytonstone, N.E. (No. 142337—February 13th.)

R. DAWSON, 96, Ingelow Road, Queen's Road, Battersea. (No. 156060—February 13th.)

The following are the fifty numbers for our issue of February 20:—

14402; 15673; 18025; 18149; 22418; 25563; 27468; 33364; 39146; 50337; 59760; 60390; 61115; 68465; 73084; 79605; 86344; 104638; 105106; 111611; 113329; 119680; 125983; 133291; 141048; 146493; 149332; 149755; 160667; 160734; 161064; 167891; 169014; 175438; 192196; 200049; 211634; 213,473; 221925; 223598; 231361; 250673; 250912; 254367; 256461; 263304; 263361; 278253; 279468; 291,062.

INITIAL NOUGHTS SHOULD BE DISREGARDED, BUT FINAL ONES ARE, OF COURSE, RECKONED.

THE FIFTY NUMBERS IN RESPECT OF THIS WEEK WILL BE ANNOUNCED IN OUR ISSUE DATED MAY 1ST (PUBLISHED APRIL 24TH)

Special Notice.

We find that the arrangements in connection with our New Ballot Scheme will take somewhat longer to complete than we anticipated, and, therefore, until further notice, the scheme will continue on the old lines, as explained above.

JOHN BULL.

Politics without Party—Criticism without Cant:
Without Fear or Favour, Rancour or Rant.

Vol. VI. No. 147. Saturday, March 27th, 1909. One Penny.

IMPORTANT NOTICE.

Letters must be addressed to the Editor, or the Publisher, at 67, Long Acre, London, W.C., according to whether they relate to Editorial or Business matters.

All editorial inquiries MUST BE MADE BY LETTER.

TO ADVERTISERS.

All applications for advertising spaces to be made to Messrs. Odhams Ltd., Advertising Dept., 67, Long Acre, London, W.C.

DALY'S THEATRE, Leicester Square.—Produced by Mr. George Edwardes, EVERY EVENING, at 8.15. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2.30, a new play, with music, entitled
THE MERRY WIDOW ("Die Lustige Witwe").

GAIETY THEATRE.—Manager Mr. George Edwardes. EVERY EVENING, at 8. MATINEE EVERY SATURDAY, at 2, a new musical play, OUR MISS GIBBS. Box Office open daily, 10 till 10.

THE WORLD, THE FLESH, AND THE DEVIL.

[The Editor discourses upon passing events and topics of the day.]

"I am getting a bit concerned about 'John Bull,'" said Dr. Macnamara, at a recent meeting. He was not, of course, referring to this journal, but to the British prototype whom we strive to represent. "There was a time when he took things quietly," continued the philosophical Doctor, "but now he breaks out into a cold sweat and looks like a person in an apoplectic fit, on the slightest provocation." Now, this is just the sort of political piffle which has characterised the naval policy of the Government. Claiming to speak for "John Bull," we are in a cold sweat, and our suppressed indignation and excitement are such that we feel almost like having a fit. But our agitation is not due to any craven fear of foreign foe. It is attributable to the criminal complacency of the Government. Let there be no mincing of words—*Germany is humbugging us.*

We therefore welcome Mr. Balfour's Vote of Censure. The fact is that whilst we have been occupied in publicly insulting a great European State by describing it as oppressed with Protective tariffs and condemned to live on black bread and horseflesh, its rulers have been not only actively engaged in a commercial war against us, but have been also preparing to teach us manners. We know Germany, and we do not like the look of things. But there is no cause for panic. She is not ready yet—and *she must not be allowed to get ready.* She cannot justify her present naval programme by any commercial necessity, *and she must be called upon to abandon it.* Will not America join us in Protest? Which is it to be—Anglo-Saxon or Teuton? LET CROYDON ANSWER THE QUESTION.

The Attorney-General, after consulting the President of the Board of Trade, has definitely refused to proceed further with the case against our Editor—despite being strongly pressed to do so by Sir Charles Mathews, Horace Avory, and Mr. Muir. We have reason to believe that Mr. Churchill took a very firm stand. It was just as well—for we had definitely arranged to have the adjournment of the House moved, had there been any other decision.

Isn't it about time that the present system of Treasury Counsel was abolished? A favoured few get all the work, with the result that, always prosecuting, their minds have become quite incapable of weighing impartially the evidence on both sides, and the consequence is that cases are presented in such a way that a defendant rarely gets a fair chance. "Muir's Mind" would make a fine subject for a psychological study.

Mr. Trevor Bigham (the son of Mr. Justice Bigham), who had been engaged in working up the case for the prosecution for some time prior to the commencement of the Guildhall proceedings, was in Court on the opening day, and sat behind Mr. Avory and Mr. Muir, making notes. Were they for the information of—but no more "contempt"!

Here are a couple of extracts from some of the "poetical effusions" which have reached us since the case:—

THE LAST DAY.

The Counsel's brow was sad,
The Counsel's speech was low,
And darkly looked he at the Bench,
And at Horati—O!
"I fear he has escaped us;
Oh, dear! he's done us brown;
And now he has disgraced us,
What price my silken gown?"

LIKE AND UNLIKE.

(*Dedicated very disrespectfully to the Public Prosecutor.*)

A mummer's son, you too a mummer are,
And, in your way, as big a clown as "Pa."
He did his mumming in a jester's motley "rig,"
But yours is done in legal gown and wig.
The difference 'twixt you is: *his* power he used to charm;
In contrast strong, *your* power you use to harm.
Thus, whilst he made his art respected, you, alas!
Our laughter raise, and make the law an ass.

Of course, we have heard from our old friend, the "Real King of England," at present languishing in Chester Asylum. Before receiving his Majesty's gracious communication we had sent to press the chapter in our Book dealing with the "Secret History of *Rex v. Bottomley*"—but an entirely new light is now thrown upon the case, as will be gathered from a perusal of the following letter:—

DEAR SIR,—Allow me to congratulate you on your great victory. You and your paper are now more valuable in the estimation of the people of the world. You have succeeded in saving all your honours and *credit*, and you left the Court without a stain on your character. I told you last summer you were a very useful and valuable gentleman, and I am very proud you have proved yourself what I told you. I hope my credit note to you got honoured all right. Dear Sir, it is my candid opinion, and I believe it is public

opinion also, that if my letters to your paper last summer in reference to the Bogus Royal Family were not published in John Bull you would never be prosecuted on such charges, because you were not prosecuted until after the publication of said letters.

If the above-mentioned statement is correct, you have been treated in a most disgraceful manner.

Dear Sir, in reference to your fine for Contempt of Court, I beg to state that I, the legal owner of the Crown of England, refuse to accept from you any fine for Contempt of Court, because the laws administered in the Court of England got no *Blood Royal Assent*. I have called on the Government to account for the owners of the Blood Royal letter of this nation. With my respects from my own Estate, Upton Asylum, Chester.—Yours truly,

H. R. H. Chester.

March 16th, 1909.

It is not true that Sir Charles Mathews, the Public Prosecutor, and Mr. Brougham, the Official Receiver who felt he would rather not go in the witness-box, have tendered their resignations and that they have been accepted by the Government.

What do the London County Council intend to do with the large number of girls now training at various colleges for the position of teacher in their schools? They begin their seven years' training at the age of 14, receiving salaries scarcely sufficient to pay for more than their books and travelling expenses. At the end of the last two years' training, a list is drawn up containing the names of a small percentage of the students, and only those upon such list are eligible to apply for vacancies. At the present time there are more than a thousand students who finished their training last year, and have not yet succeeded in getting placed. Yet the L.C.C. continues offering inducements to girls to become teachers—only to abandon them in this way in the end. We have frequently called attention to this matter, and the sooner it is taken up in earnest by the Council the better.

The daughter of one of our Irish readers, a girl of 16, recently applied for the position of scullerymaid and received the following letter from the advertiser:—

——requires a very strong, clean, active, healthy, country girl as scullerymaid and general under servant in a gentleman's family, country house, well able to do scrubbing properly, clean and scour all kitchen and dairy articles; skin and prepare rabbits, pluck poultry; prepare vegetables (with cleanliness and method) do some house scrubbing, grates, fire irons; learn to clean with much care and properly an "Eagle Range" and flues; do plain housework mostly scullery and dairy work, and some in kitchen) under lady, cook, or other good servants; fetch coal, or plain sewing, in fact, anything useful asked (but wood, etc. Must be an early riser (6 a.m. or sooner), have very good last character, be truthful and obedient to orders; have neat, very plain under and upper Sunday dress, etc. (no finery).

Wages to a clean, strong, capable, intelligent girl who is recommended for work, £8 per year, all found but washing—to rise, if suitable, after 1 year.

Will ——— ——— write in own hand her age height, religion; if strong; last reference for character; how long in place; why left; and all and every particular, as a girl is wanted almost immediately; also what part of Ireland from? Say if can cook at all plainly; if can bake bread; if can make porridge well; if can prepare rabbits, poultry, etc.; if understand fowls (setting, etc.), if can churn, or know anything of dairy work?

All for eight pounds a year—minus washing! Surely this beats "Lal" Brough's brickmaking story.

Our remarks about the Mormon propaganda in this country have brought upon us the wrath of no less a person than the secretary of the Manchester district Mormons. "I am a member of the Reorganised Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-Day Saints," he says, "which Church is the rightful successor to the one started by Joseph Smith." The object of his protest is to point out that Joe Smith was not an "arch-humbug, impostor, swindler, forger and sensualist," as we described him; that Brigham Young's succession to Joe was illegal and apostate; that the reorganised Mormons are the only genuine, have no connection with the Utah lot, and do not preach or practise polygamy or concubinage. As to this last statement of defence we never said they did. We merely warned Englishwomen and English girls who thought of becoming Mormons and thought of going to Utah, that they had better think again and not risk it. We might have pointed out that there is a man in Salt Lake City who has three wives, one the mother, the other the grandmother, and the other the granddaughter; but we didn't.

For the rest, we decline to argue about history, to stimulate a discussion in these columns for the advertising of Mormonism in any way whatever. It is, however, only fair to say that, according to Mr. William Jarman, an ex-Mormon priest of Salt Lake City, who has denounced Utah Mormonism up hill and down dale, that the "Reorganised Church" is "as free of the crimes and immoralities of the Utah Mormons as is the Church of England, or any Nonconformist Church." It may be added that the Reorganised Church has established its claims by legal judgment in the American Courts. As to Joe Smith, who was the originator of Mormonism, what we have said we have said, and there's an end.

The death of poor Arnold Forster came with tragic suddenness, though his public work was over. Ill-health had made it imperative that he should retire from Croydon. He was an able man, his worst fault being his too obvious anxiety to let everybody know it. Success in the fierce race of politics had given him swelled head, and though swelled head is common enough in the House, few heads in Parliament were quite as swelled as his. Withal he was a tremendously hard worker, energetic and enthusiastic, and he did really know a great deal of military affairs. Yet he was not strong enough to fight for his own hand, not tactful enough to placate his own friends, and not accommodating enough to be easily driven in other people's harness. That is why he was just successful enough as a politician to be a failure as a Minister. And at last the edict which none can resist was written in the prime of his life. His ambitions, his hopes, his efforts were swept aside in a breath. He had to leave public life or pay—and he has paid.

Apropos our recent reference to the Pastoral of the Roman Catholic Bishop of Galloway, in which he denounced as abominable, sacrilegious and sinful any marriage "contracted outside the Catholic Church," we have received a letter from his lordship complaining that before commenting upon the matter we should have "asked to hear the other side and receive first-hand information." The Bishop proceeds:—

In a document in which I warned the less devout and less instructed of my people against any violation of the Church's law regulating the celebration of the sacrament of marriage, and against the dangers attendant on a too intimate association with persons of corrupt principles and irreligious tendencies, the *Dumfries Standard*, your authority, discovered that I proclaimed a religious war, and denounced all association with Protestants. I at once protested against the unjust accusation.

The Bishop then favours us with a copy of the Pastoral itself, and tells us that "a glance will show that neither the word nor the thing 'Protestant' occurs in the whole document," and proceeds to explain that he was

dealing with "the *act* of celebration of marriage, not with the partners," concluding with the somewhat oracular statement, "if the Society members whose principles and tendencies I consider dangerous are Protestants, then I may ask: have Protestants the Christian religion? Be comforted, sir, Protestantism is not the redoubtable enemy that we Catholics have most to deal with at the present day."

We need hardly say that our respect for our Catholic readers is such that we should be extremely reluctant to utter a word to cause them pain, or misrepresent any of the principles of their religion. On looking at the Pastoral, however, we find this phrase, "It has now again been declared solemnly by the highest authority, that no Catholic can contract a valid marriage outside the Catholic Church." To our lay mind, this is a distinct declaration that any marriage contracted outside the pale of the Catholic Church—that is to say, a marriage between a Catholic and a non-Catholic—is, in the words of the Bishop himself, "an act of foul concubinage," and that the parties to such marriage come within the ban as being "utterly unwelcome and unfit to hold intercourse with you (the Catholic community) until they repent and amend by putting away the evil thing." Assuming the marriage to have been contracted, what other interpretation can be placed upon the Bishop's phrase, "the evil thing," except the non-Catholic party to it? We could make many more quotations from the Pastoral, especially in regard to its advice to good Catholics to "unreservedly shun all association and converse of anyone who should unhappily fall into such abomination," and to "avoid and to refuse ordinary intercourse with those who outrage faith and morals," but we are a purely secular organ, respecting all faiths honestly held, and treating them all as but different methods adopted by their adherents to assist them, according to their lights, in leading good lives. There may, of course, be interpretations of the Pastoral of deeper meaning and import than the lay mind can appreciate, but we have simply entered a respectful protest against what we conceive to be a very extravagant and far-reaching condemnation of many good-living and law-abiding citizens.

By the way, we notice that the Rev. Joseph Hocking makes a charge against the British Press of giving unfair advantage to matters affecting the Roman Catholic Church, and that Dr. R. F. Horton dots the i's and crosses the t's of Mr. Hocking. Dr. Horton says the Protestant feeling in the country cannot get expression in the Press, and that every Roman book, Roman movement, Roman aggression, is duly chronicled, while the passionate desire of Protestants to defend their faith is damped down by the insidious hands of Roman Catholic agents. Here is the method as Dr. Horton sees it. "If," he says, "any fact is stated, if any revelation is made in a paper which is in any way injurious to the Roman conversion of England, the editor is immediately assailed with protests, denials, threats of legal proceedings, &c., which appear to him like the rising of an indignant public opinion. He is too busy to find the inwardness of it. For the sake of peace, he yields to this violent clamour of the post." The facts are fairly accurate, but the inference is all wrong.

The truth of the matter is that there is no sort of polemic more prolific of hatred, malice, and all uncharitableness than that in which contending religious factions indulge when they are allowed their heads in the public Press. Once open a discussion between Catholic and Protestant, Anglican and Methodist, Christian and Agnostic, and there is no end. The thing gathers momentum every day, and becomes an overwhelming avalanche of recrimination, abuse, and verbal trickery. A casual word demands paragraphs of explanation; a pungent phrase draws a hundred sentences loaded with acid. So it goes on, and the poor newspaper editor, who has been bitten once, shies always. Our own mission is to expose intolerance and humbug and cant wherever we find it. Whoever strives to do what work he can for human betterment by all the just and tolerant methods open to good citizens, may be whatever religious "ist" he pleases, so far as we are concerned. He is good enough for earth, and therefore should be good enough for heaven.

Speaking of the work of the Court of Criminal Appeal the other day, Mr. Justice Darling said it would gradually tend to standardise punishments for the same class of offences. Blessed, indeed, would be that consummation. In the meantime it may be here noted that at the recent Exeter Assizes a tailor, who stole a portmanteau from Sir John Shelley, was sentenced to three years' penal servitude, and that at the same Assizes, "Bessie Rosamond Rodgers, wife of a gentleman of social standing," was bound over for stealing a valuable fur from a shop and an ornament from a hotel. True, the lady was a kleptomaniac, and the tailor was a thief. True also, the tailor had been previously convicted. Nevertheless, three years' penal seems a ferocious punishment for the offence..

Apropos our remarks on the action of the Bristol magistrates in convicting a tramway passenger for not tendering his fare until leaving the car, though it had not been previously demanded, it is the view of many citizens that a city of the standing of Bristol ought to have a stipendiary. On that point it is not for us to offer an opinion; Bristol must decide the matter for itself. What is peculiar about the place is that it should need so many policemen. Serious crime in Bristol is exceptionally low. The local force, one constable to every 700 of the population, is mainly occupied in hauling up people for being without visible means of subsistence and begging. Which is not surprising; the rates being 9s. in the £.

We are glad to learn that Messrs. Cadbury, Fry, and Rowntree have at length come to the conclusion that they can no longer support by their custom the slave-grown cocoa of San Thomé and Principe, the West African islands under the sovereignty of Portugal. They have therefore decided on what in the tearful land of Erin is known as a boycott. The meaning of this is that San Thomé and Principe will be shut out of the British market; for when these three great cocoa firms have withdrawn, there will practically be nobody else to buy. That Messrs. Cadbury, Fry, and Rowntree, acting in combination, have been able to square their business to their ethics is a good thing accomplished. In these days one hears *ad nauseam* that business is business, as if the fact of a man being in trade or commerce excused him in taking profit from all the abominations in Christendom, and out of it. Happily—and it should be said to their credit—these three firms do not think that way. Time and time again the Portuguese Government have promised reform in their cocoa islands. Messrs. Cadbury and the other firms have given that Government such an abundance of time to redeem its pledges as almost to put them under suspicion of moral blindness. But after a five months' visit, Mr. W. A. Cadbury finds that the slave conditions of the cocoa islands are pretty much what they were when attention was first drawn to them. The boycott is the result. If this does not bring the Portuguese Government to its senses, nothing will. We are glad to have had a hand in the business.

Bottomley's Book is now ready. See page iii. of Cover for a Summary of the Contents.

It is a damnable thing that a public man should be wounded in his career and reputation and struck at on his own hearth by such foul libels and slanders as those to which the crazy political animus of somebody on the staff of the *People* newspaper recently gave currency, in the case of Mr. Lloyd George. There was nothing secret about them at all. The rumours had been flying all over London, and had become common gossip in every political club. They had been offered for sale to many papers. We could ourselves have published them if we had been mad enough and vicious enough, months before a Tallis Street paper risked a fall on them. John Bull hits hard, and hits often, but he tries to hit fair. He does not poison his weapons and hit in the dark. The envenomed attacks made on the Chancellor were cowardly, because the libeller made it quite clear to anybody who knew anything, that Mr. Lloyd George was meant, without daring to say the name straight out. We do not believe that either Sir George Armstrong or Mr. Madge, the proprietors of the paper, would have allowed such a libel in the *People*, if they had been able to arrest the reckless hand before it was published. If one had to publish all the vile and malicious rumours current in this coterie or that about Ministers, ex-Ministers, and prominent politicians one would need a "Book of Slanders." In the fierce beat of public light on public men hardly one escapes nowadays. It is all very ugly and very cruel, but there it is. The worst of it is that these rumours often float about for months before the victim hears of them, and that even when he does hear of them he can do nothing. One cannot fight shadows. We have had a taste of it ourselves.

Apropos the appointment of Mr. John Roskill, K.C., to the judgeship of the Salford Hundred Court of Record, several correspondents have asked if this is the learned gentleman who recently was one of the heroes of a *fracas* between Counsel in Court, and, if so, whether he is exactly the type of individual to administer the laws of the land. We fancy, however, that our correspondents have somewhat exaggerated the incident in question. Mr. Roskill is an extremely able and popular man, and has made great strides in his profession since we first met him as Junior Counsel for one of the defendants in the Hansard Union case nearly twenty years ago. We should not be surprised if he sets about effecting several much needed reforms in the procedure of the "Old Hundred" Court.

A Hong Kong correspondent informs us that the following memorandum was recently issued by Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, Commander-in-Chief on the China Station, to all ships and departments under his command :—

> Hong Kong Races, 1909—Attendance of Officers.
>
> Subordinate Officers are only to be allowed to attend the Races on the distinct understanding that they do not frequent the Pari-mutuels or otherwise Gamble.
>
> The Commander-in-Chief ventures to remind all Officers that it is far easier to lose than to win money at racing.

Coming from Vice-Admiral Sir Hedworth Lambton, such a pronouncement savours somewhat of the ironical. We are not sure that its proper place would not be in our "Biscuit" column.

Lord Burton's will is a striking testimony to the merits of the ale he conferred on a thirsty and therefore grateful nation. If his ale had not been so good he would not have died so rich. In one respect it is a model will. It remembers and rewards every man and every woman who rendered him faithful, personal service. In these days, when there is an ever-growing tendency among rich employers to squeeze men in their youth and manhood like an orange, and in their later life cast them away like the rind, it is a good thing to read of a man whose wickedness in being a brewer did not prevent him from being so good as to leave £40,000 worth of legacies to his servants. One feels that this sets an example to many of our Bishops and clergy, who lay up treasure unaccording to the Scriptures, and die in the hope of the Lord without leaving a penny to charities or a ha'penny to those humble men and women who have rendered them a life's good service. And after all, whether we are high or whether we are low, good service is all that we can give. Some of us give it to a cause, others to a person; but there it is, the uttermost that is in us. Lord Burton has recognised all this, and the temperance fanatics will perhaps do his memory a little reverence because of it.

One becomes somewhat alarmed in regard to the educational efficiency of English school teachers applying for certificates under the Board of Education as one reads the criticisms of the examiners. As an instance of "the ignorance of common things," even on the part of some of the candidates who have obtained fairly good marks, it is revealed that many of them "believe that our Colonies send representatives to the English Parliament, while few seem to know that the Colonies are self-governing." There is perhaps more excuse to be made for them in face of the criticism that "much of the work called French is of little or no value." Everybody knows that the method of teaching alleged French in our schools is ludicrously stupid; and until Education Committees recognise that French is not to be taught by inviting the mother of the friend to come into the garden of the grandmother, or inquiring of the sister of the father the whereabouts of the pen of the cousin, they had better drop lessons in the language altogether.

There is at least one member of the Northampton Town Council who yearns for economy. He is an Alderman who keeps his eagle eyes on the soft soap. At the last meeting of the Council Alderman Yarde drew attention to an item in the report of the Tramways Committee whereby it appeared that the Committee had expended as much as £2 of the ratepayers' hard-earned money in buying soft soap from a Liverpool firm. With a quiver in his voice he "entered a protest against the action of the Tramways Committee purchasing a proprietary article from the manufacturers at the price, or at an enhanced price over that at which they could buy it from the grocers of Northampton." Evidently Alderman Yarde thinks that soft soap should begin at home. Unfortunately, it was pointed out in the course of a profound discussion that soft soap could not be bought in £2 lots in Northampton at the same quotation as the Committee had bought it in Liverpool, so that the worthy Alderman will have to watch the ha'pence elsewhere. Has he noticed what the Council are paying for their washleathers and dusters?

Being in the writing line ourselves, as it were, we are always pleased to note any beneficent effects that may flow from the fountain pen. Especially are we delighted when a sinner is brought to repentance by way of literature. Therefore we are tempted to rejoice exceedingly and with vine-leaves in our hair at the latest news from Berlin—not about naughty old Von Turpitude, but about beautiful young Fraulein Larsen. This lady, we gather, has been converted—converted by reading a novel of Miss Marie Corelli! It has convinced her that "the stage is sinful," and that the only course for her is "to live an ascetic, self-sacrificing life" in future. Self-sacrificing young ladies we adore; but we do not recommend asceticism except in chronic cases. However, on closer inspection of the details, we are cheered. Fraulein Larsen's ambition is "to revive the mystery play of the Middle Ages." We

commend Miss Larsen to the prompt consideration of Mr. Alfred Butt. After so much high art, the Palace audience might welcome a little Artistic Evangelism. Or there is the Coliseum?

The nomination of Mr. Chamberlain as a candidate for a seat on the King's Norton District Council is silly. Surely people can admire that eminent politician without making themselves excessively ridiculous. Mr. Chamberlain is as little likely to become a member of the King's Norton District Council as he is to take a trip to the moon.

There is a bit of a pother between the Rev. W. A. Hewett, vicar of St. Faith's, Brentford, and a journalist on the staff of the local *Independent*. In the course of a note the journalist said that he "never went to church or chapel because of the vast amount of hypocrisy and sham which prevail." It is not a very good reason, if that is the only one, for very many people go to church and chapel who are as sincere as very many people who stay away. One might almost as reasonably refuse to go to a dinner-party because one feared to meet somebody who would pocket the silver spoons. But that by the way. The parson put on the cap, wrote to the editor, called upon the writer of the note to substantiate his "sweeping condemnation" of "all the Christians of Brentford," though he had not mentioned Brentford, demanded in a covering note that the journalist should henceforth be prohibited from writing on religious topics, and intimated that he did not wish the journalist to be sent to any of his church functions in future.

It is all very twopenny-ha'penny. The rev. gentleman has simply made himself ridiculous in demanding substantiation of the statement that there is a vast deal of hypocrisy and sham prevailing in churches and chapels, for that is as much common knowledge as that there is a vast deal of hypocrisy and sham prevailing outside them. And when the vicar tries to put on the screw by dictating to the editor what his contributor shall or shall not write and shuts him out from reporting the parish meetings and tea-fights, the best answer the editor can make is to treat the vicar as if he were no longer on this earth; unless, that is, the rev. gentleman runs the paper as well as the pulpit. Having said this, we are now in deadly fear that the vicar will prohibit us from ever mentioning Brentford again. Hence this trembling.

Mr. Shackleton has been saying unkind things about Ben Tillett, because he has come on our platform. "Mr. Bottomley," says Shackleton, "is no friend of the working classes." We believe he said something else—but it is not recorded. May we respectfully give our hon. friend a little lesson in French? Here it is—*nous verrons*.

WORRIED LOOKS.—XX.

FATHER NEPTUNE AND TOO MANY SHIPS.

"John Bull's" Biscuits.

For stating in "The Daily News" that the total income of the nation bears "an infinitesimal ratio to its expenditure,"
MR. CHIOZZA MONEY, M.P.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating, at Harrod's Stores meeting (when giving his experiences as an old volunteer), "We went for long marches, PRINCIPALLY BY TRAIN, to Wimbledon Common,"
SIR EDWARD CLARKE, K.C.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in its report of a Ponder's End Whist Drive, "Winner of GENT.'S first prize, MRS. PURVIS."
THE MIDDLESEX GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For inserting the following advertisement, "Bedroom suite, pledged for £5, cost 15s., sell ticket for £2."
THE GLASGOW EVENING CITIZEN
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating that "Socialism was the embodiment of the ethical principles laid down in the Sermon on the Mount,"
MR. KEIR HARDIE, M.P.,
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For offering to supply "Musical Missionaries" at sixpence a dozen,
AN ADVERTISER IN THE *DAILY NEWS*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For advertising "Comfortable home 10 chronic ladies,"
AN ADVERTISER IN THE *CHURCH TIMES*
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating "Let Germany build 'Dreadnoughts' by he hundred, I am not afraid of them,"
MR. ARNOLD LUPTON, M.P.
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For stating in the Navy debate that he referred to Germany "only for what may be called arithmetical purposes,"
THE FIRST LORD OF THE ADMIRALTY
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For the following conundrum: "'Barge Turns Turtle,' says a morning paper. Mansion House problem: What will be the effect on the price of SOAP?"
THE STAR
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For writing in "The Citizen" about Pope "LEOPOLD the Thirteenth,"
WALTER R. HADWEN, M.D.
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing the follwing paragraph in its issue dated March 4th—the fact being that the cars had then been running for five weeks:—"For some time past Putney Bridge has been in a more or less impassable state owing to the laying of tramway lines. These are now completed, and it is expected that, in the course of the next few weeks cars will be running on the new section between Putney and Hammersmith,"
THE EVENING NEWS
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

For publishing, directly under a set of obituary verses in memory of a local Justice of the Peace, the following doggerel rhyme:—

I've chucked the undertaker's shop,
Because it didn't pay
There's not a custom in a month,
I once got every day!
I put the coffins up the spout,
And pawned the blessed pall
Since ——'s Great —— Cure came out
There's no one dies at all!

THE DONCASTER GAZETTE
TAKES THE BISCUIT.

SECRET HISTORY OF THE BOTTOMLEY CASE.—I.

(FROM "BOTTOMLEY'S BOOK.")

After dealing with various law cases in which he has been interested, Mr. Bottomley proceeds:—

And then came this extraordinary case, which, *nominally*, began on the first day of December, 1908, and ended on the twelfth of March, 1909, having, during that period, occupied the attention of four different presiding Aldermen, with, in its latter stages, the assistance of a committee of several others. I say it "nominally" commenced on December 1st. In reality, it had been going on for at least a year. It arose out of the affairs of a company called the Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, of which I had been chairman some three years previously, and which had gone into liquidation early in 1906. Prior to that event, I had personally assumed liability for the whole of its debts, and I owned, or controlled, the bulk of its shares. And, being master of the situation, I had proposed and carried the appointment of the Senior Official Receiver as Liquidator. This gentleman was Mr. H. de Vaux Brougham, scion of a noble legal family—a breezy Sussex sportsman, whose hat was always more or less at right angles to his head, and who gave one the impression—however erroneous—that he belonged to that school which never allows business to interfere with pleasure. But he was Senior Official Receiver in the Companies Winding-up Department of the Board of Trade. And what more could any shareholder want than that?

The Winding-up Department.

To make my narrative plain, I should mention that this department came into existence at the beginning of the year 1891, and that the Hansard Union, of which I speak elsewhere, and of which I was the leading spirit, was the first big case which fell into its hands. At that time the Senior Official Receiver was Mr. C. J. Stewart, now the Public Trustee—between whom and myself a battle royal raged for about two years, culminating in the Crown prosecution of *Regina v. Bottomley and Others*, the story of which is the subject of another chapter of this book. As everybody knows, I administered a severe dressing to the new department, and got Stewart severely called over the coals by Mr. (now Lord) Justice Vaughan-Williams and Mr. Justice Hawkins. I have no desire to gloat over the fact. He was a young man, new to the work, anxious for the aggrandisement of his office, and easily led by more experienced individuals. But the Department never forgave me. It had kept me under observation for many years; and now at last had come its opportunity! The details of the liquidation were put into the hands of a subordinate, named Edward Vaughan Fox. (They are all people of noble birth at the Winding-up Department.) Mr. Brougham, as I have said, is a gentleman who, whatever his abilities—as to which I can truthfully say I know nothing—is not of the type that probes deeply into small things, and so it comes about that Mr. Fox is usually put up in Court and, described as Examiner in the Department of the Official Receiver, is relied on to unfold the story of Directors' misdeeds in relation to their defunct companies. He is the *post-mortem* expert. Thus for three months he sat in Court during my case, making elaborate notes, literally sitting on the books and papers of the company (like an old hen on dummy eggs), until, just before the time arrived for him to go into the box, he unfortunately contracted a bad cold, and had to stay at home. I am glad to gather that the latest accounts of his health are more satisfactory. All sorts of other people—assistant official receivers, assistant examiners, inspectors and I know not whom—assisted at the burial of my unhappy Joint Stock offspring, but for all material purposes in this story, Mr. Brougham and Mr. Fox were the *dramatis personæ*.

Scenting Danger.

From the outset of the liquidation I scented danger. It was obvious that the Hansard Union fiasco had not been forgotten, and that the official mind—always a narrow and ungenerous thing—was bent upon "getting its own back." From all sorts of trustworthy quarters reports reached me that "they meant to have me this time"—and I could not but notice that the vehemence and frequency of these threats were considerably increased when, in the House of Commons, I commenced a series of attacks upon the appointment of Mr. Stewart to the office of Public Trustee. There was already in the hands of the Department a mining company in which the Joint Stock Trust was considerably interested, called the Selected Gold Mines of Australia, and I had been told, on good authority, that the officials were disappointed at the paucity of material which its liquidation provided for attacking me, and I had complained to Mr. Brougham of this kind of thing. But towards the end of May, 1906, I found it necessary to write Mr. Brougham the following letter:—

H. de V. Brougham, Esq.,
Senior Official Receiver in
Companies Liquidation,
Re Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, Ltd.

24th May, 1906.

Sir,—You will remember that a short time ago, in connection with the affairs of the Selected Gold Mines of Australia, Ltd., I had to complain that certain members of your staff were taking upon themselves the responsibility of making statements, or, at any rate, very thinly-veiled suggestions, as to ulterior proceedings of a serious character against the Directors and others connected with the Company. You replied stating that there was no foundation for this report, and I accepted your assurance.

In connection with the affairs of the Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, Ltd., I have indisputable evidence that this kind of thing is taking place. Whether it is intended to intimidate witnesses or what other motive there can be behind it, I do not at present know. It is, however, a most serious matter that a Government Department charged with judicial functions should adopt such a line of conduct, and unless I receive your distinct assurance that the matter is receiving your personal attention, I shall have no alternative but to bring it to the notice of the President of the Board of Trade by means of a public question in the House.

You will remember that I also had to take exception some time ago to your staff threatening certain Directors with "police-court proceedings" for not keeping their appointments to attend at your offices—this phrase being apparently deliberately adopted to cause them alarm, and the only justification in law for it being that they might in the event of a real refusal to afford you information be liable to certain penalties enforceable by a Court of Summary Jurisdiction.

I should like to respectfully refer you to certain observations of Mr. Justice Hawkins in his summing-up of the Hansard Union case in reference to the conduct of your predecessor in office, Mr. C. J. Stewart.

I reserve the right to make such use of this letter as I may deem fit.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Horatio Bottomley.

Of course, I got the stereotyped reply, in the following terms:—

Board of Trade,
Department of the Official Receivers
in Companies Liquidation.
Re Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, Ltd.

May 24th, 1906.

Sir,—I have to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of the 24th instant, and to inform you that I have made enquiries

into the matters referred to, and have satisfied myself that no attempt at intimidation as suggested by you has taken place.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
H. Brougham,
Senior Official Receiver.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.

For a time there was a lull—whilst, in accordance with the requirements of the Act, I and other officials of the company were attending at the offices of the Official Receiver for the purpose of affording him information.

It was upon one of these occasions, however, that something came to my knowledge which impressed upon me the importance of having no further verbal communication with the Department, and, accordingly, on June 28th, I wrote Mr. Brougham that "in view of certain circumstances, respecting which I would rather not say anything at the moment, I would prefer giving my information upon any remaining matters in writing"—a course in which he acquiesced.

Again reports came to me (I am precluded by considerations of honour from disclosing their sources—but they were unimpeachable)) which showed conclusively that by the month of October, 1906, the Department was congratulating itself upon having already obtained sufficient material to justify it in asking the Treasury to undertake a prosecution. Upon more than one occasion I saw Mr. Brougham and complained strongly of what was going on, and at every interview was assured by him that I had been misinformed, and that, so far as he was personally concerned, he had no intention of alleging fraud against any of the Directors—although I did not fail to observe at one of these interviews that he laid particular emphasis upon the phrase "so far as *I* am concerned." By the middle of October, however, the condition of things had become intolerable. The late Secretary and Bookkeeper of the company were being coerced into making admissions likely to assist the Department in getting up a case, and were being warned that it would be better for them "to do as others had done, and put everything on Bottomley." Solicitors and other professional men having business with the Department, were constantly warning me of what was going on, and reporting statements made to them; and on the 15th of that month I wrote Mr. Brougham the following letter:—

15th October, 1906.

H. de V. Brougham, Esq.,
Senior Official Receiver,
Companies Winding-up Department.

Re Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, Ltd.

Sir,—I regret that it again becomes necessary for me to address you in regard to the conduct of certain members of your staff in relation to the affairs of the above-mentioned Company. Upon several occasions I have had to protest against statements and suggestions which have been thrown out by your subordinates, almost from the very first day that the liquidation of this Company came into your hands—statements of a highly slanderous and offensive nature. I have also protested against the thinly-veiled threats made to the late Secretary of the Company and others when undergoing their Preliminary Examination—the most glaring case being when the late Secretary was warned to "make a clean breast of everything, as it would probably be better for him hereafter." Satisfied, however, with your personal assurance that such words were not seriously intended, and with your undertaking to warn your staff to be more careful in future, I allowed the matter to drop.

Ever since then, however, reports have been reaching me, almost weekly, from solicitors and other professional men who are brought into contact with your Department, and also from other sources—clearly showing that the same system of irresponsible chatter is going on.

Indeed, the reports now flying about the City and elsewhere are gradually becoming less circumstantial and more definite. In two different quarters during the past ten days have I learned that, so transparent and glaring are the frauds of the Directors, that it is not even your intention to wait for a Public Examination before invoking the aid of the Criminal Law.

Whether there is the remotest shadow of foundation for such statements, or whether because the Judge, as I am given to understand, refused to make an Order for Public Examination in the case of a kindred company, the Selected Gold Mines of Australia, Ltd., you hesitate to make a similar application in this case—of course I do not know.

I cannot, however, as a public man and Member of Parliament, permit this sort of thing to continue a day longer, and I am now determined to bring it to a head. You will remember that at the Meeting of Shareholders I invited you to apply for a Public Examination of the Directors, and, now that the Courts are about to reassemble, there will be no excuse whatever for your delaying such application further, if you consider there is the remotest justification for it—notwithstanding that when I last saw you, you assured me that such was not the case. For your subordinates, however, to be whispering all kinds of slanderous things about myself and my colleagues is a grave abuse of the functions of your Department, and does not tend to elevate it in the public estimation. The duties of the Official Receiver are quasi-judicial, and—whilst I freely admit that, so far as you are personally concerned, I have no cause of complaint—I naturally look to you, the Head of the Department, as the proper person to put an end to this intolerable state of things.

I am, Sir,
Your obedient servant,
Horatio Bottomley.

I also sent a copy of the letter to Mr. Lloyd George, then President of the Board of Trade, and to the late Sir John Lawson Walton and Sir William Robson, who were then respectively Attorney-General and Solicitor-General, writing each of the last-named gentlemen in the same terms as those of the subjoined letter to Mr. Lloyd George:—

16th October, 1906.

The Rt. Hon. D. Lloyd George, P.C., M.P.,
Board of Trade, Whitehall, S.W.

Dear Mr. Lloyd George,—I am sorry to have to trouble you with the enclosed copy of a long letter it has been necessary for me to address to the Senior Official Receiver in Companies Liquidation. The matter, however, is one of very considerable importance to me, and I feel very keenly upon the subject to which it refers.

After sinking practically the whole of my fortune and working day and night for several years in the interests of the Company in question, it is nothing short of scandalous that irresponsible junior officials of the Winding-up Department should be acting in the way I complain of.

I have endeavoured to give the Department all the assistance in my power, but I really cannot and will not waste further time in endeavouring to make clear to the minds of very subordinate officials complicated matters of company finance and administration, which neither their intelligence, nor experience, nor training qualify them to understand.

All I ask is that the Department should conduct its business in a judicial manner, and that gossiping to third parties about the internal affairs of companies in course of liquidation and investigation should be directly forbidden.

I confess I have never been able to appreciate the utility of this Department—which seems to serve no useful purpose whatever—and I do not think that by the adoption of such methods as those of which I am complaining it is likely to improve its reputation.

I am, of course, quite aware that I may be told, as I have been told previously, that I ought not to attach any importance to idle gossip of this kind; but idle gossip ought not to emanate from any Government Department, and certainly not from one which is vested with semi-judicial functions.

I desire, however, to add that in whatever I have written I do not wish to make the slightest reflection upon the impartiality of the Official Receiver himself.

Yours faithfully,
Horatio Bottomley.

P.S.—I have sent a copy of this letter to the Solicitor-General and the Attorney-General.

In due course came the orthodox reply—but not, it will be seen, until after a special Enquiry had been held by the President of the Board of Trade.

Board of Trade,
Whitehall Gardens, S.W. *29th October*, 1906.

Dear Mr. Bottomley,—I duly received your letter of the 16th instant enclosing a copy of the communication which you had addressed to the Senior Official Receiver in connection with the liquidation of the Joint Stock Trust and Finance Corporation, Ltd., but I thought it better to delay answering it until I had made a careful inquiry into the facts of the case.

As a result of this inquiry, I am convinced that you are mistaken in thinking that there has been any gossiping to third parties by the officials concerned in this matter.

Could you furnish me with any details?

Yours faithfully,
D. Lloyd George.

Horatio Bottomley, Esq., M.P.

(To be continued next week.)

THE NAVY AND THE NATION.

MINISTERIAL CONFESSIONS AND COLD TRUTHS.

The Bee in the Bonnet.

A leading characteristic of certain members of the present Government is their appalling ignorance of matters of vital and pressing moment to the country. This unpleasant truth is vividly illustrated by the utterances of Ministers upon the Naval policy of the kingdom. It is said that all of us are mad upon some point or other, and it really seemed as if that generally shrewd old Scot, Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman, was mad upon the question of disarmament. Before he came into office he had convinced himself that if only the British Government would approach that of Germany with the proposal that neither country should increase its present expenditure upon naval armaments, Germany would agree. It is not easy to understand how he persuaded himself of this. Knowledge of the situation which a Prime Minister must be presumed to possess should have taught him that Germany was not content to remain in a position of great inferiority to England upon the seas. The German Emperor and Prince Buelow had been quite explicit as to that. It was notorious that German opinion was almost unanimous in its support of the German Naval policy of expansion, but Sir Henry Campbell-Bannerman went with his proposals to The Hague Conference with a light and confident heart, only to find that Germany refused to discuss them.

German Construction.

Then came the warning of men who knew that it would be unsafe to rely much longer upon Germany being unable to turn out first-class ironclads as quickly as ourselves. Lord Tweedmouth, and after him Mr. McKenna, in his early days at the Admiralty, stoutly denied this, and classed the men who warned them of their error with the scaremongers of the newspapers. Now Mr. McKenna admits that the German yards can turn out capital warships as quickly as we can, and even hints that the German facilities of construction may soon be greater than our own.

The Two-Power Test.

Then we had the Prime Minister's vaunted declaration about the Two-Power Standard test. Public anxiety had been growing, and it became necessary for him to reassure the country as to the intentions of the Government. And so we find him getting up and saying that he and his colleagues were determined, come what might, to maintain the Two-Power Test as applied to capital ships, with a margin of 10 per cent. When the doubters asked whether the Prime Minister meant by this the Two-Power Test as applied to the two next maritime States whether in Europe or elsewhere, Mr. Asquith explained in language not open to misconstruction that he meant the two next maritime States, be they where they might be—*i.e.*, for the present purpose Germany and the United States. Now when Mr. Asquith said this he must have known, if he had given any attention to the subject, that he was promising that which he had no intention of performing. He must have known that the next year's Naval expenditure of Germany and the United States together is estimated to amount roughly to 46 millions sterling. There is no good reason to suppose that nowadays we can get much more for our pound in the way of Naval construction than Germany, and not very much more than the United States, so that if we add the 10 per cent. to the Two-Power Standard, it would be necessary for England to spend in the current financial year, not what the Government proposes to spend, something under 35 millions sterling, but over 50 millions sterling. As a matter of fact, in the Naval Debate in the House of Commons on Tuesday last Mr. Asquith was hard put to it to satisfy the House that in 1912 we shall have any appreciable advantage in the number of capital ships over Germany alone. The Two-Power Standard, plus 10 per cent., seems to have gone by the Board, for when the House of Commons settles down to examine seriously statements of the kind, Ministers find it inexpedient to persist in them. If we accept Mr. Asquith's figures, as given in the House of Commons last week, in April, 1912, we shall have 20 ships of the *Dreadnought* type against 17 possessed by Germany, but Mr. Balfour's figures suggest that Germany may by that time have 21, or even more, and in this matter—strange as it may sound—we have more faith in Mr. Balfour's correctness than in Mr. Asquith's.

A Characteristic Dodge.

If the facts of the situation are as Mr. Balfour described them, or even as Mr. McKenna and the Prime Minister admit them to be, it will be necessary—if we are to be safe for more than a year or two—to lay down at least eight capital ships this year, and here we have a very characteristic decision of the Government. They find that they will be in an awkward position. They will have to sanction an expenditure which must seriously affect their social schemes of reform. That is a most regrettable fact, but it is not made better by trying to cloak it. Now, what do Ministers do? They have not the courage to say to their followers that they have satisfied themselves that eight ships are necessary to the public safety, that eight ships must be laid down if there is to be any pretence of keeping up the Two-Power Test. They think they can run with the hare and hunt with the hounds. And they have hit upon a device worthy of an Attorney. Only four capital ships are to be laid down—in this way they do something to mollify the peace-at-any-price people—but, to avoid the outcry that would follow this proposal, they say they will lay down another four capital ships if they find later on that it is necessary to do so. We are confident that they have no intention of laying down those four ships if they can wriggle out of doing so. Already we have the Prime Minister telling the House that he has had assurances from the German Government that they do not propose to go beyond their present Naval programme. It reminds us of the undertaking given by Prussia to Napoleon after Jena—and it is as worthless.

Face the Facts.

Why will not Ministers face the facts? Why do they continue to refuse to admit that Germany is determined, if it be at all possible, to bring up her Fleet to the strength of our own? Why do they tell the House of Commons that there is no such intention, or, if there be, it is only a foolish boast? Germany has a population nearly 50 per cent. larger than our own, industries rapidly approaching our own in importance, a people much less heavily taxed than we are. Why should it be impossible for Germany to construct a Fleet as powerful as our own? It was said, we think by Mr. Asquith, in the Debate, that, for one thing, Germany could not get the men. Is that so? She can get an unlimited number of men for sea service, thanks to conscription, and it has yet to be shown that you cannot turn a landsman into a sailor in two or three years.

What is Wanted.

Nor is it enough that we have the ships—they must be in the right place. For of what avail is it to have an ample number of capital ships of war if they are scattered far and wide? What England wants is a sufficient Fleet—by which we mean not merely a Fleet of battleships, but of all the subsidiary ships necessary to make a battle fleet efficient—always stationed in the North Sea. For every two German men-of-war, concentrated as these men-of-war always are, in or near German ports and the German coasts, England should have three. And whatever the requirements of the Empire may be outside the Northern Seas they must be supplied, cost what they may. The time may, and probably will, come when we may be hard pushed to do all this, but that time is not yet.

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PROFESSION OR BUSINESS .....

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BOB'S BAIT.*

By John Ackworth.

Bob Stimmage's courtship, long drawn out and fiercely persevering, was ended at last, and he was striding furiously down Whincop Lane and anathematising the whole world of women; whilst "Tit" was slowly putting away her knitting with clouded face and wavering little sighs. She had nothing on earth against Bob except that he either could not or would not court her properly. "Him and his cockroaches!" she muttered to herself contemptuously in allusion to an interminable tale he had told her; but the subject refused this time to be dismissed, and it was with her all night, and grew more insistent all next day. She took her chair to the door of the little whitewashed cottage and sat down in the cool evening to wait the inevitable visit, but when no Bob appeared, though she lingered until the darkness set in, she went indoors with perplexity added to her other emotions.

A week passed, and Bob had not been near her. She had stopped sitting in the doorway now, and had already got a long way along the pathway of repentance. On the eighth night, just as she was polishing the glass of the little lamp, a heavy thud came at the door, the latch was lifted, and in poked a long-cased clock, or, to be precise, the case of it.

"Oh! massy, what's to do?" and she lifted up the lamp to discover the bearer

Bob Stimmage deposited his burden on the floor, and strode out of the house.

"Whatever—oh! Lorjus days!" and Tit's portly mother came hurrying out of the scullery and stood transfixed before the tall case.

"It's one of that Bob's crazy tricks," said Tit scornfully, "but if he thinks—" but here Mrs. Barnet touched the inlaid and polished case with covetous admiration, and broke in—

"Hay, isn't it a bonny un? It's a stunner!"

The door opened again and Bob returned with the case-head, the clock itself, and the weights.

"Now then, Impidence. What's this rammaging work?" cried Tit with reddening face.

Bob silently put down his burden, picked up a ricketty table—Tit had always hotly resented his very apparent contempt for the poorness of their household gods—standing near the scullery door and set is away in the pantry. lifted the gorgeous case into the vacant place, and mutely proceeded to set up the clock itself. He was specially lucky in the position he had selected, and Mrs. Barnet was gloating over this striking piece of furniture with envious eyes.

"Bob Stimmage, dost know thou'rt in somebody else's house?"

Bob went coolly on fixing the case.

"Tak that thing away, this isn't a Pop shop, mind thee."

Bob deliberately turned his back upon her and picked up the clock works with their dragging chains, stealing as he did so a sly look at "Mother."

"I'll chop the maggotty old thing up, if thou leaves it here. Thou thinks we are nobbut two weak women, but I'll show thee!"

Bob, hanging the pendulum, found the task too delicate for conversation.

"Mother, what are you standing staring there for? Onny gaping sawney can bring they're rubbitch here, can they?"

Mrs. Barnet was beaming at the grand moon face and its four gilt fingers; and Bob was busy with the weights.

Tit made a dash at the clock. but as Bob made no attempt to stop her she checked her self, her hands on the case whilst the clock began to strike. Mother listened like a charmed thing, and even Tit stopped her tirade to hearken.

"When thou's done that Tom-fool work happen thou'll oppen thy great silly mouth."

Bob was listening to the beat of the clock; and so baffled, mystified, but piqued with curiosity, Tit retreated to her mother's "rocker" and sat down, stiff with indignation.

Bob stepped back and squinted his eye to see that the case stood square and true, and then bent his head to listen again at the case-door. Then he carefully picked up the case-head, adjusted it to its place, and finally stood away to survey the effect.

"Hay, Bobby, what a grand clock! Whatever—"

But Bob wheeled round, held out the key to Mrs. Barnet with a flourish, and said excitedly, "I've bowt it at Pinky's auction, for a lark—what's t'use o' me havin' brass—and I want you to give it houseroom till I want it, there's no room for such fine things in my lodgin's;" and, without so much as a glance toward the amazed and outraged Tit, he was gone.

Weeks passed, the great clock seemed to brighten the whole house, and Mrs. Barnet was never weary of rubbing its case and boasting of its perfections. But Bob never darkened the door.

Then he arrived one night, when Tit was out, with upholstered chairs and a real hair-seated rocker. What he said to Mrs. Barnet has never been known, but she took the goods in, though Tit when she came home declared she would put them in the coal house. All the same a few days later Mother noted that they had been carefully polished. Then the crazy Bob sent a chest of glass-knobbed drawers and a dresser with white-wood top, but though latterly he came with the goods he never as much as looked at Tit, and her railings did not seem to perturb him in the least.

By this time Mother had become mightily proud of the new furniture, and was constantly dropping wondering exclamations as to what they should do if and when Bob fetched them back. For different reasons neither woman told how they had come by them, and the neighbours concluded that the Barnets, who were always "close," must have come into some "brass."

The days were shorter now, and Bob altogether invisible. Tit had become quite anxious about the furniture, and wished to her mother every day that "That Bob" would fetch them away before they got injured. One day, however, Mrs. Barnet brought home tidings that Bob was to be married shortly, and poor Tit quite lost her temper because her mother could not tell the name of the happy bride. All the same she gave special diligence in polishing the goods; and one day cried with a fretful outbreak, "He'll not have that clock if he gets wed twenty times, I'll buy it off him myself."

Mother's only reply was an incomprehensible sniff.

After tea one dark evening, she began to suggest to her parent ways and means for purchasing the furniture, or at least the grand clock.

But mother was neither sympathetic nor very reasonable.

Tit was angry and tired, and wanted solitude and so was retiring quite early; but just as she reached the foot of the stairs there was a knock at the door, and though she could have reached the latch from where she stood, she bounded across the house into the chair-corner nearest the fire, whilst a voice that went through her, cried:

"Well, Mrs. Barnet, I've come for the furniture."

"Furniture?" and Mother's voice had suddenly become distressful.

"Furniture? then thou'll not have it! Leastways not till thou's payed for storage," and the overwrought little Tit, red as a turkey cock and quite desperate, flew at the grinning Bob as though she would have worried him.

Bob looked down upon her much as the hungry schoolboy looks at apple-dumpling; and then cried with an exultant note that nearly gave him away. "But it's mine, isn't it?"

"Thine or not thine, thou'll let it be."

Bob, one vast grin which was aggravating her to tears, still stared at her, and then replied in words evidently prepared beforehand: "That stuff's mine! Wheer I goes it goes, wheer it stops I stop." And he stood there palpably gloating over her distress.

She was gasping as though for breath, and choking back hot tears. Then she looked up at him, and their eyes met. Just as he was snatching at her she turned tail towards the stair-foot, and then wheeling round cried, "Thou can please thyself, but t' *furniture's stoppin'*." And he only caught her at the stair head.

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PERSONALITIES—VIII.

A Minister once known as John,
By invite the King called upon;
When seen by the crowd,
They all cried aloud:
"My word, John, you've got 'em all on!"

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Whether we consider this new edition of "The History of Freemasonry" from the point of view of its fulness of detail, the interesting and even fascinating nature of its treatment, its wealth of illustration, its excellence as to type, paper, and handsome binding, there is no doubt that the work is really worthy of a great and important body that has not hitherto received its fair share of consideration at the hands of the historian.

(See form at foot of this page.)

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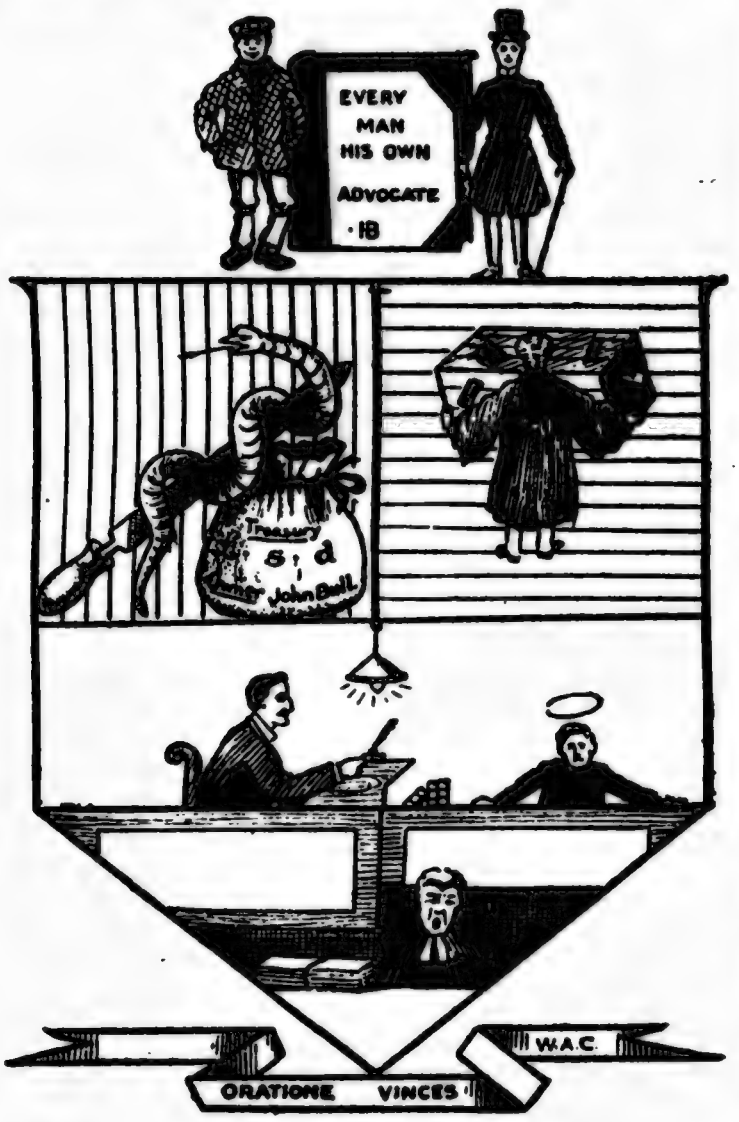
A PICTORIAL CONGRATULATION.

Many of the congratulations received by us at the conclusion of *Rex v. Bottomley* were of a pictorial and poetic character—of which the following is an amusing example :—



Arms of
Horatio,
Master of Avorie,
Editor of "John Bull."

Crest—Bottomley's Book triumphant, supported by the British Public.

Arms :—

(1) A wily enemy sinuous, gripping an *Old File* (in Bankruptcy), somewhat shabbily handled, and leaning on a *Power of Wealth* improper.

(2) A *K.C.* or Legal Liminary, endeavouring to support a rotten case—somewhat patchy, full of interruptions—and slipping through his fingers.

(3) The *Survivor of Countless Aldermen* using a *Rarity*—called *Common Sense*, and sending an M.P. *Liberal and Hackney'd* back to the House weighed down by a *Halo*—and *Costs of Defence*.

Motto :—

"'Oratio will come out on top."

THE "TELEGRAPH'S" VETERANS' FUND.

Apropos our recent reference to this matter, we have received the following letter :—

> Sir,—I was much interested in this week's John Bull, and was much touched by the article "The *Daily Telegraph* Veterans' Fund." My father-in-law, Mr. E. J. Masters, 144, Berkshire Road, Hackney Wick, was in the Crimean and Indian Mutiny ; he enjoys the special campaign pension of 1s. per day, and has recently got the 5s. old age pension. He is 76 years of age, and was in the K.R.R. regiment. He went to the Albert Hall, though he was not invited, saw his old colonel, and shook hands with him, but did not get anything. He has written, but they reply it was not meant for him. The public should know who it is meant for. He stuck to his bench up to six months ago, but had to give it up.

WHAT IS YOUR NUMBER?

See page ii of cover.

A Victoria Cross Hero.

Saving the guns at Colenso.

After Effects of Enteric Fever

Sleeplessness, Nervous Breakdown—

Mr. George Ravenhill, V.C., the heroic soldier who saved the guns at the battle of Colenso, is so enraptured with and so *convinced* of the extraordinary revitalising properties of Phosferine, that he thinks the immense benefit he has derived from the Remedy of Kings ought to have the same publicity as the appreciations from Royalties, Doctors, Celebrities, &c. Mr. Ravenhill relates that the hardships of the Boer War shattered his iron nerve and endurance, and he came home wrecked in constitution, weakened by enteric fever and unfit for regular civilian employment, and yet in spite of his distressing condition, *as soon as he commenced to take Phosferine* he was able to pull himself together and make a fresh start.

What really cured them

Mr. George Ravenhill, V.C, late 21st Royal Scots' Fusiliers, 1, Dallman Street, Vauxhall, Birmingham, writes :—"I consider Phosferine to be the best nerve tonic and food which it is possible to take, and without any doubt it has worked wonders in my case. When I came home from the South African War my constitution and nerves were quite run down, owing to hardships, privations and enteric fever. In fact, I grew worse, and since 1902, until recently, I was afflicted with an almost entire loss of energy. My occupation as a civilian has been many times disturbed owing to my lack of fitness and capacity. I was quite a nerve wreck, and the sleeplessness from which I suffered caused me to become very irritable and despondent, and for quite five years I was never myself. Phosferine has really wrought a very marked change, and to-day I am quite my old self, just as good in every detail as I was prior to the Boer campaign, and the traces and symptoms of my nervous strain have now left me. I am now performing my work, and do not feel at all ill-affected by it. I am twice the man I was. Phosferine has practically rebuilt me."—January 14, 1909.

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CRUELTY TO ANIMALS.

Referring to our recent comments upon the National Society for Prevention of Cruelty to Animals a lady writes to us :—

I sincerely trust your widely-read paper will be the means of stirring people to enquire more into the workings of the N.S.P.C.A. A year ago we brought to their notice a fearful case of cruelty to which we had five witnesses, all people who kept horses of their own and knew what they were talking about. The Society's inspector went to see the horse in question and was shown four perfectly sound ones belonging to another stable. We refused to let the case drop, and, in fair play to the inspector allotted to our district, he went down at four in the morning and found the originals, and to us in confidence he said he had never met a worse case of cruelty. In spite of the evidence of people of position, this case was not allowed to proceed. Why? The owner had been up to see the Secretary, and also he was a subscriber to the Society. It seems to me the heads of the Society are younger sons who have not sufficient brains to earn any money elsewhere. I must own some of their inspectors are above bribery and work from sheer love of animals. It makes one feel sick with horror to read your article on pit ponies to-day—that such things can be in Christian England, yet we have the audacity to send missionaries abroad. With the thousands of pounds left constantly to this Society a proper overhauling of these underground places should be an easy matter. I feel confident with your power of eloquence you could stir all England to demand an enquiry for those who cannot speak for themselves.

We have received the following interesting letter from Mrs. Albert S. Bradshaw :—

The terrible suffering and cruelty endured by these four-footed slaves hidden in the bowels of the earth is, alas! only too common; environment rendering reform exceedingly difficult, while inspection, so far, is merely farcical, inasmuch as notice has to be furnished before the visit of an inspector is permitted.

I would, however, like to point out that Our Dumb Friends' League devotes attention to this special branch by educating the boys employed in the mines not only to be humane, but also offers rewards for acts of kindness and heroism performed on behalf of the animals of whom they may be in charge. As a recent illustration of this, I may mention that at a meeting held by the Society at Claridge's Hotel in February, the special Award Medal, and also the FitzWilliam Medal, was presented by Julia Marchioness of Tweeddale to a pit-boy, aged 17, who at the risk of his own life saved that of his pony in the colliery disaster at Barnsley. Although I never lose an opportunity of introducing the subject when speaking publicly, it is very uphill work. If, however, you, with your outspoken opinion in any cause of oppression and injustice, will only ventilate the matter through your columns, I am convenced that public indignation will be aroused, and at least one blot upon our boasted civilization be effaced.

LUNACY SCANDALS.

We have received the following letter. It is addressed to us from a well-known Asylum in Wales. and, as will be seen, is written by a man who, though perfectly sane, as he says, despairs of ever leaving the place alive. Surely when a man can write such a letter as this, appealing to the Commissioners for an independent inquiry into his mental condition, it should be granted :—

In a recent issue of your well-known paper I read a letter under the heading of "Asylum Scandals," which interested me very much, as I am in a position to confirm the charges, having been confined in an asylum for some years, and although I have made repeated applications for my freedom, I have quite failed to obtain it. The principal person I have against me as a private patient is my wife, who is doing her utmost to keep me here for the remainder of my days, which she is able to do, having all my property in her hands.

I have even gone so far as to write to the Commissioners in Lunacy, but am no more forward in the matter, and have come to the opinion that I am a prisoner here in my wife's hands for the remainder of my days, like hundreds of private patients (male and female) all over the country, many of whom have died in consequence.

If this matter was gone into at a public inquiry it would reveal a scandalous state of affairs, equal to the Russian prisoners in Siberia.

It is well known that hundreds of private patients have died in asylums, whereas they should have had their freedom so as to enjoy the money and private property they possess.

I can myself prove in a public inquiry that what I have had to undergo would astonish the whole world, and no doubt hundreds could do the same. I have only to look forward to ending my days in the asylum, although I am in perfect health mentally and bodily, and prepared to be examined by any outside qualified medical man in the country or anywhere else. I challenge anyone to prove that I am suffering in any way at present from metal disease.

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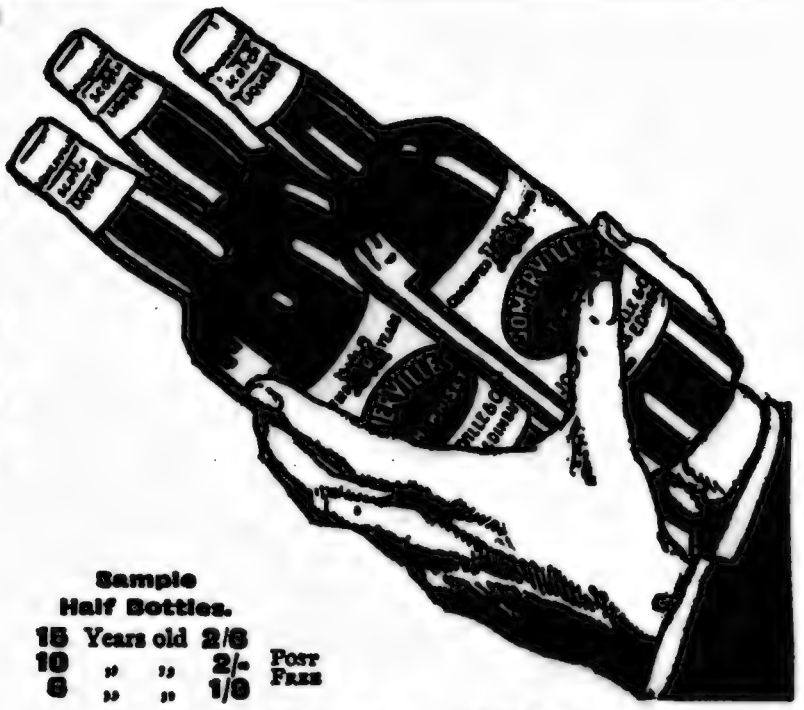

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A NEST OF TRAITORS.

SHOULD INDIA HOUSE BE SUPPRESSED?

"If swords are denied, let daggers dash, and, if guns are prohibited, let bombs boom." These words form the opening phrase of a pamphlet issued from India House, Highgate, the head of which is Shyamaji Krishnavarma, barrister-at-law, of the Inner Temple, London.

There are about 700 Indian students in this country, distributed as follows:—London, 250; Edinburgh comes next with 200; the Universities of Oxford and Cambridge are responsible for 100 between them; the remainder being distributed in Birmingham, Glasgow and Leeds. Of these, 15 per cent. are probably disloyal. The young fellows land here friendless and uncared for, and soon give a ready ear to the seductive talk at the India House weekly dinners.

Not the least important part of the propaganda carried on at this establishment, consists in the issue of pamphlets in Hindustani, Bengali, Guzrat, Urdu and Punjabi, which are sent out broadcast to schools and political societies, sometimes direct through the British Post Office, but generally *via* Berlin. India House, moreover, is in close touch with the Indian students at Tokio and other Japanese Universities, where, with the connivance of the Mikado's Government, similar treasonable documents are composed, and despatched for distribution amongst the Indian troops, and in hamlets and villages throughout India. Most of the Indian students receive handsome remittances from home, and they subscribe liberally to enable India House to carry on its nefarious work.

A representative of John Bull recently spent an afternoon within its walls. Detectives watched him suspiciously as he knocked at the door, which was opened by an untidy-looking, half-witted, English boy. Admittance was at first refused; better counsels, however, prevailing, our correspondent was admitted into a spacious reception-room. The walls were hung with such pictures as "Indian Martyrs of 1857," showing natives being blown from guns by English troops; and portraits of Tilak and other revolutionary heroes. Presently, the superintendent came in, clad in fashionable European attire. At first, writes our correspondent, he was visibly nervous. On realising, however, that his visitor was not a police emissary, he thus unburdened himself:—

"War against Great Britain must be declared," stated this intelligent Mahratta. "The English must be driven out of India, which must be left to govern herself. They, and they alone, are responsible for the millions who die yearly from famine, which we Indians would prevent altogether, if we ruled our own country." He ignored the observation that England by expensive irrigation works has done much to mitigate famine. "Britain," he alleged, "had throttled all native industries, since her occupation, of India, in order to benefit Manchester capitalists. Further, England," he said, "drains India of money, whilst refusing to allow natives a share in the administration. This was soon to be remedied. Hindus and Mahomedans were now combining as they had combined before during the mutiny; but this time their efforts would free India from the hated British yoke for ever. Outside help from radical English sympathisers was neither sought, nor desired. They were able alone to achieve the end in view. All at India House," he added, "were acting under secret orders; they were sworn to obedience, and would do whatsoever they were told.

John Bull's representative, as he left this strangest spot in this marvellous metropolis of the Empire, wondered what would be the result of five years, or even five months, of the rule of such men as Shyamaji Krishnavarma and his misguided followers, who instigate others to crime and assassination, whilst they remain safely at India House, protected by laws which they boldly set at defiance.

To rule India, with its innumerable races, a strong, firm hand is needed. To those who seek to accomplish changes by means of bombs and other illegitimate and cruel measures involving the death of innocent victims, no mercy should be shown. It would be advisable, in our opinion, to transport the inmates of India House to St. Helena, where they would have leisure to reflect on the folly of their ways, and to evolve schemes for an Indian Utopia, which cannot possibly be realised for many generations.

Bottomley's Book is now ready. See page iii. of Cover for a Summary of the Contents.

Nerve Force Restored by Electricity.

AN INTERESTING STORY FOR ALL HEALTH-SEEKERS.

Every organ of the body is governed by the net work of nerve wires. These nerves convey the power which runs the organism. This power is called nerve force. Nerve force is nothing but electricity.

The reason any organ becomes weak is because the nerves which control it lack electricity—the motive power of the body. This lack of nerve force is shown by weakness of any kind, whether in the stomach, liver, kidneys, heart, or other organs.

When the memory is poor, confidence and nerve all gone; sleep restless; if there are frequent headaches, and the eyes are dull and heavy, it shows that the supply of nerve force is depleted.

Every dose of medicine taken into the stomach weakens the nerves. Every time you kill an ache or a pain by stupefying the nerves with medicine, you are hurting them, and anyone can see that in time, by steady dosing, the nervous system will be completely broken down.

It is pitiable to see the wage earner, the man with others dependent upon him, rendered unfit for work by a breaking down of his nervous system. He has tried to keep up, but Nature will have her way, and unless he replenishes his nerve supply by electricity, he sooner or later must pay the penalty.

Practical knowledge of the curative effects of electricity induced the invention of the "Ajax" Dry-Cell Body Battery. A self-charged electric generator for giving new life and strength to weak, worn-out bodies; for the cure of Rheumatic pains, Stomach, Kidney, Liver, Bowel, and Bladder Troubles; for the alleviation of Paralysis, Epilepsy, Locomotor Ataxy, Chorea (St. Vitus' Dance), and all nervous troubles. It is specially for those who have been trying to get relief for years and have been forced to conclude that they are incurable. Hundreds of these cases can be cured if electricity is used in the proper way.

There is a book telling all about it, and how it is done. It is free to all who write for it. This is not merely a price list, but an illustrated pamphlet which everyone ought to read. If you cannot call for a free test, ask The British Electric Institute (Dept. 41), 25, Holborn Viaduct, London, E.C., to send the book. It will show you the road to happiness and health.—[Advt.]

Suits Cleaned for Easter.

If you will send us your suit to be cleaned **now**, we will clean and press it to your satisfaction for **3/9** inclusive, and we will **guarantee** to return it to you in time for your Easter holiday. Just before Easter we always have a heavy rush of work and we cannot **then** undertake delivery to a fixed date. Send your suit or your light Spring coat to be freshened up to-day. Telephone 1265 EAST for van to call: or write to address below for Catalogue and address of nearest branch or agency.

Achille Serre, Ltd.

(Nettoyage à Sec),

HACKNEY WICK, LONDON, E.

(Carriage paid one way on orders sent direct.)

AMONG THE MUMMERS.

A Catchpenny Trick.

From time to time in this journal we have emphasised the necessity that music-hall artistes and managers should unite to put down certain tricks of the trade that were not above reproach, judged by the most lenient showman standards; that were in the nature of false pretences against the public, as well as unjust to the artistes whose names were taken in vain. It is difficult, of course, to exterminate the variety pirate, and even when inferior talent adopts a title or description that is colourably like that of a better entertainer, the remedy is not easy. But we have long held, and are glad to see that the King's Bench has now held, too, that the illegitimate use of the names and songs of certain popular "stars" by picture and talking machine firms, ought to be put down with a strong hand, and could be put down so soon as managers and artistes joined together to do it. Unfortunately, some entertainers, who ought to have been wiser than to allow it, have lent themselves to the purposes of these cheap and nasty shows by posing for the pictures and singing into the machines. They are sorry now: because they find that not infrequently their picture and their song have already visited this town or that, with a consequent reduction of the novelty of their own turn.

"Come and See H——y L——r!"

But that is a professional point of view: the evil from the public standpoint is that whilst huge letters on the posters announce the appearance of this artiste or the other, below in very small letters, which cannot be read at night and only with a magnifying glass in the day-time, the information is offered that he will appear "on the pic-talk," or something or other, which the uninitiated might very well imagine was a Scottish, or Irish, or Welsh form of tight-rope. One of the companies owning a combined talking and picture apparatus was not content to advertise its attraction generally, but must go and post its bills alongside the posters of the proprietary which had paid Harry Lauder a big figure to appear at a rival hall a few yards away. The result of this was a verdict for £50 damages and an injunction against further advertising of the kind. We may hope, therefore, that an end has now been made of this type of sharp practice, and that when leading artistes are playing in the country or abroad in future, sandwichmen will not parade the West End of London inviting us to see the said artistes either at reputable halls or temporary premises run by passing adventurers.

Oscar Asche's Latest.

If we may rely upon the reports from the provinces, Mr. Oscar Asche and Miss Lily Brayton have found a winner in the adaptation of Stanley Weyman's "Count Hannibal," which Mr. Asche and Mr. Norreys Connell have made. Four acts and ten scenes and eighty persons on the stage sounds a bit heavy; and when Harker scenery and Anderson dresses are added the money represented must be very considerable. Curiously enough, Mr. Asche will not bring "Count Hannibal" to London direct from the country: he will tour it first in Australia. That Continent is Mr. Asche's native land: although he is of Scandinavian extraction, I believe his mother kept an hotel in Victoria. It is eighteen years since Mr. Asche was Down Under: he starts for the Colonies at the end of May and will be there for six months. One of our soundest actors, and married to one of our most gifted actresses, Mr. Asche will take with him on his Southern tour the best wishes of a wide circle of admirers.

Miss Elliott and Mr. Waller.

The combination of Mr. Lewis Waller and Miss Maxime Elliott in the next Lyric play should prove a strong one: for the statuesque beauty of Miss Elliott is as famous as the good looks and personal dash of Mr. Waller. Besides, Miss Elliott is not, like so many of our nice-looking stage ladies, merely nice-looking: she is one of the best of the American actresses lent to us by America, as all who have seen her, with or without her former husband, Nat Goodwin, must admit. Nat, of course, is the very fine character actor who retired from the stage "because it interfered with his evenings' enjoyment;" he became a stockbroker up on one of the new mining fields Arizona-way.

The Opera Season.

Modern French works are to occupy a large place in the programmes of the Covent Garden season, which opens on April 26th. Debussy and Charpentier will be represented with "Pelleas et Melisande" and "Louise" respectively. Wagner takes a back seat, but the "Walkure" is to be put on for a few performances. The singers include quite a number unknown to fame—at least in London; and this also adds a spice of interest to the season. Meanwhile, there is another little burst of theatrical activity in the West End. Mr. Charles Hawtrey has opened what we all trust will be a happy and profitable season at the Royalty with Mr. Maugham's new piece, "The Noble Spaniard," and George Paston's "Feed the Brute;" and Messrs. Harrison and Frohman are giving some additional performances of Mr. John Galsworthy's remarkable play, "Strife," at the Haymarket, where the new Davies' play, "Bevis," is preparing. Later on we shall see Miss Ethel Irving in alliance with Mr. J. E. Vedrenne in an autumn production, of which I hear great things.

P.

EVERY : PIPE : SMOKER : OF EXPERIENCE knows that the tobacco he wants must have these three qualities—*coolness, aroma,* and that subtle property one terms *flavour,* for lack of a better description. Otherwise it will not do. Of the three, *coolness* is least often found. Yet it is essential, for a man cannot burn his tongue and please his palate. In

Chairman

the three are found in combination. It is a fine mixture that yields a lasting pleasure to the votary of the pipe—always fragrant, always pleasing, cool to the last shred.

It is of medium strength and suits most men's requirements.

Boardman's

is the same tobacco milder, and

Recorder

the same but fuller flavoured.

Sold by tobacconists at 5½d. per oz., and in quarter and half-pound tins.

In case of difficulty write to—

R. J. LEA, Manchester.

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OPEN LETTERS, POST-CARDS AND TELEGRAMS.

To Admiral von Tirpitz, Naval Minister, Berlin.

Dear Friend,—Last year I had only one eye on you; this year I have two. I also shake hands with you across the seas. Let us embrace. Let us be brothers. Let us play at building big ships and big guns together. Am I right in supposing that you have heard of our Mr. Chamberlain—by Christian name Joseph? The biographers tell a nursery story about him. One day Joe and his brother, or his sister—no matter which—were playing at tin soldiers. The two opposing forces were lined up, and Joe and the other General commenced to fire. Down went the enemy's army before Joe's deadly guns. But the fire of the other General made no impression on Joe's troops. They stood the shock of battle to a man, unwavering and unslaughtered. 'Cos why? Joe had taken no chances; he had glued 'em to the floor. So, dear friend, in our playful little game of shipbuilding in the nursery of Europe I am not taking any chances either. I know you love me as a brother, and are anxious not to hurt my feelings. And I do not want to hurt yours. But I am going to put up the defences and glue 'em down, dear friend. And I am going to start just now, so that you will have no doubt about it.

You do not blame me, do you? You cannot, really. Fact is, there is a little difference between our common friend Asquith and yourself. In the House of Commons the other day, Asquith said he had raised the question more than once whether any proposal for the mutual reduction of expenditure for naval purposes could be accepted by your Government, and that he had been assured more than once in the most formal manner that from your side it could not be thought of. The following day in your House of Commons it is reported that you were asked whether the suggestion had been made, and you are said to have declared that it had not. I do you the justice, dear friend, to believe that perhaps your memory is failing. On the other hand, I know that Asquith's memory is rather good.

However, we will not have words over a little thing like that, you and I; we are such good friends. You are building lots of battleships for fun, and I am building more battleships than you build for fun, for we both dread nought. I don't much like the game myself, do you? The toys do run away with such a pile of money. They are dangerous, too, when one comes to think of it. What a lot of noise there would be if one of them were to go off. We should not be able to see each other for smoke. But, of course, it would only go off for fun, would it not? We would be dear friends just the same; we love each other so. Still, as I said before, I am taking no chances. I am at work on the defences, old chap—and I am going to glue 'em down. And I intend to have more toys than you, so there, even if I have to pawn my undergarment to get 'em. But then you will probably have to pawn yours before I do. This will make us comrades to the last.

Adieu, dear von, till this time next year. Meanwhile do not forget that I am *glueing 'em down*. With best love from all at home, John Bull.

To Sir Hugh Graham, Proprietor "Montreal Star," Press Conference Committee, London.

Dear Sir,—What the deuce do you mean by saying that if England is not prepared to resist the foe by land or sea at all times and in all circumstances, we Britishers "will all be puzzling ourselves over Canada's curious attitude"? Would England's extremity be Canada's opportunity, eh? Just straighten out your phrase a little, my dear sir. As it stands, it does not look helpful.

John Bull.

To William Wale, Fenny Drayton, Leicestershire.

Dear Will,—I note—with some surprise—that after having been parish constable for a year, you have relinquished the insignia of your office—the parish truncheon and a pair of steel handcuffs—and thrown up the job in disgust, *because there was nothing to do*. No offences of any description were committed in your Utopian community, and so you had no one to hale to the village lock-up. Really, I sympathise, and consider it nothing short of disgraceful on the part of the villagers to appoint a constable, and then give him no work. Makes him look so silly, doesn't it? How it must have riled you to see likely-looking tramps, to say nothing of scorching motors, on the highway, just *out* of your jurisdiction. Even one prisoner to arrest and prosecute would, as you plaintively put it, have been evidence of good faith, and an earnest for the future. But stay—a disturbing solution of the mystery occurs to me. Is it possible that some small breaches of the law *did* take place, and that the miscreants were so mean as to do the deed when you were not looking? For instance, while you were guarding the parish pump, a truant schoolboy may have helped himself to the uncounted apples in Farmer Giles' orchard, since even a parish constable cannot be in two places at once. No matter; you have arrested no malefactors, but you have done something infinitely greater—established a precedent unique in the annals of officialdom, in giving up your office because you had nothing to do. Officials more highly placed might do so with advantage to the national pocket. You "owed it to your dignity"; they have none. Therefore repine not, William; if you cannot be a Sherlock Holmes, you can be honest. John Bull.

To Mr. Kingsley Martin, Solicitor, Stockton.

Sir,—It has come to my notice that in opposing a licence being granted at the local Brewster Sessions to two chemists to sell medicinal wines, you stated that you "represented the clergy of Stockton." This seems to be a slight inaccuracy, for the Rev. F. S. Willoughby, of St. John's Vicarage, Stockton, says you didn't represent him; but if you represented the others you must have had one of the funniest retainers ever given by a holy synod to an advocate at law. When I contemplate the spectacle of the clergy of Stockton rising in their might to promote the cause of temperance by preventing a chemist selling Doctor Dockem's Renowned Beef Tea Port and John Smith's World-wide Oxtail and Malt Claret, I laugh you a great laugh. *Entre nous*, can you not get your client to summon a public meeting to protest against the devastating traffic in Levy's Liquid Mustard and Parkinson's Piquant Pickles? Just see what you can do, good sir. Slowly, but not the less surely, mustard and pickles are accomplishing the downfall of this great nation. All friends of temperance reform must be up and doing. Rally them to the flag ere it be too late. John Bull.

To Alderman Bulley, Office of Poor Law Guardians, Birkenhead.

Dear Alderman Bulley,—It is written that the sins of the fathers are visited upon the children, but I am glad to think that, in your opinion, as in my own, is is no part of the duty of the Guardians to precipitate the decrees of Providence. It was a manly and humane protest which you made against the withdrawal of relief by the Guardians from a New Brighton woman on their discovery that two out of her five children were illegitimate. Those of your colleagues on the Board who voted that the woman might hunger and starve for all they cared can surely have no place in the hearts of the people of Birkenhead. What, may I ask, is their religious persuasion? John Bull.

Professor Lupton, M.P., House of Commons.

Heard your statement in House Commons that Germans might build fleets by the score—you were not afraid of them. Have wired McKenna to withdraw new naval programme at once. Bull.

Lord Montagu of Beaulieu, House of Lords.

Resorded your hope that you will soon be able come down House of Lords in aeroplane. Should not be surpriced. People do sometimes fall out over their best friends. Bull.

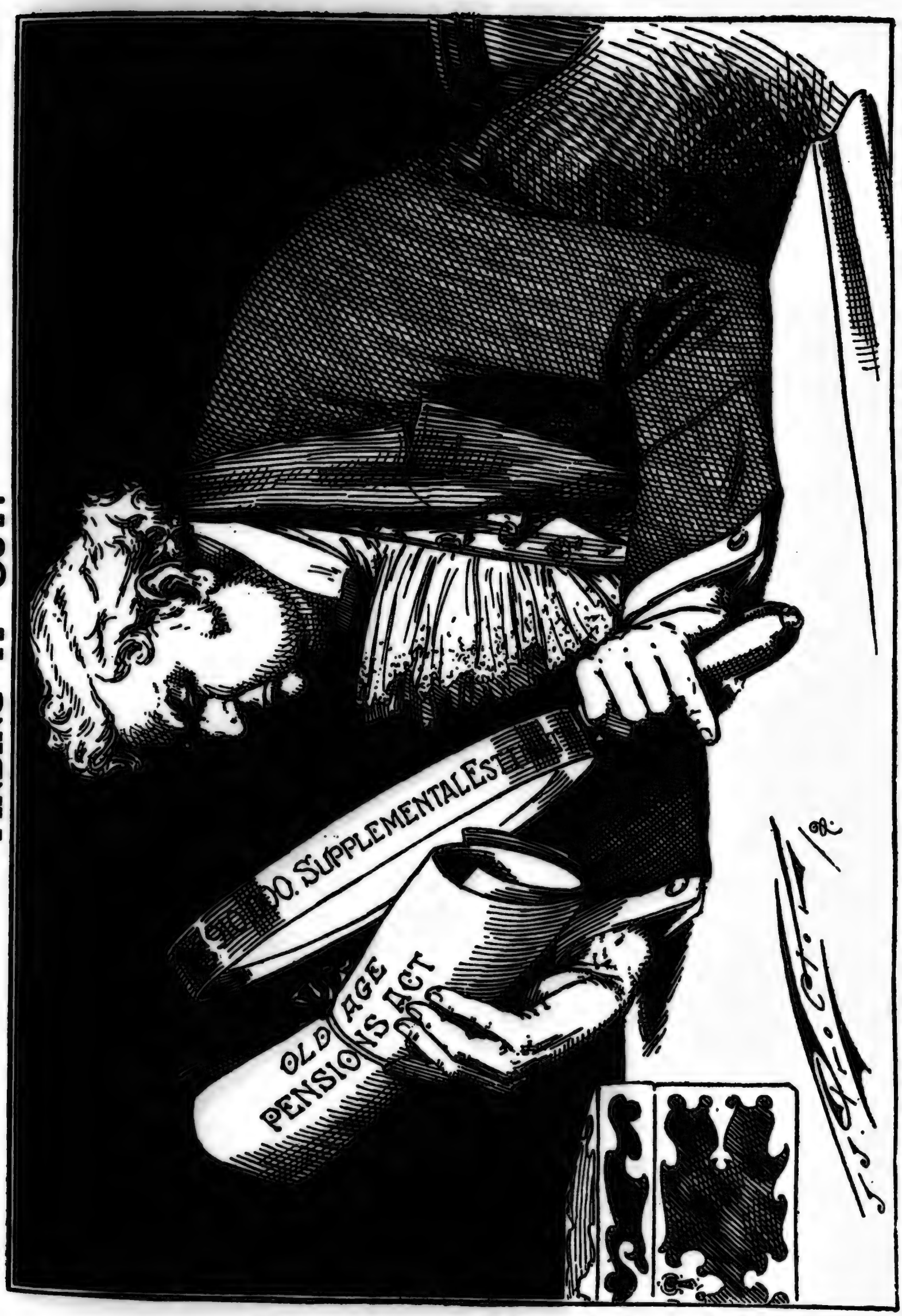
Rear-Admiral Litvinoff, Russian flagship "Tsarevitch."

Trust yourself, officers and men enjoyed England better than I should enjoy Russia. Was glad to see still sufficient left of Russian fleet to bring you. Better avoid Dogger Bank, to prevent accidents. Trawlers fishing there as usual. Farewell. Bull.

Newby, Court of Governors, Bank of England.

Remark your concern as to whether Bank could withstand projectiles dropped from airships. German aerial fleet will tell you on invasion. Till then, hope Bank will not be stony broke. Bull.

FINDING IT OUT.



JOHN BULL: "Whatever may be the merits or demerits of Lloyd George's powerful magnifier, it brings a larger amount of pathetic poverty to my notice than I ever imagined."

IN THE CITY.

PROMISE AND PERFORMANCE.

Our readers will remember that we consistently advise them to have nothing to do with American Insurance Companies, partly because English policy-holders have no sort of grip upon these American Companies, and also because disclosures from time to time afford abundant evidence of the unsatisfactory way in which American Companies are managed. We have just had a visit from a policy-holder in the Mutual Life Assurance Company of New York, and his experience warrants in a striking manner our mistrust. Our visitor, at the age of 35, took out a 20 years' policy for £500. This was in 1889, and the options he might select from at the end of 20 years—there being no surrender value—were as follows:—

(1) That at the end of the twenty years the cash value of the bonuses would be £213 10s.

(2) That the cash value of the policy and bonuses would be £361 10s.

(3) That the paid-up policy and bonuses would be £643 10s.

(4) That an annuity for life, from the age of fifty-six, would be £32 10s.

(5) That if the payments on the policy were continued, the policy would be worth as a death claim £905.

Now let us see how it pans out when it comes to settlement.

(1) The cash value of bonuses is put at £108 5s.

(2) The cash value of policy and bonuses at £255 13s.

(3) The paid-up policy and bonuses at £415.

(4) An annuity for life at £19 0s. 11d.

(5) The continuance of payment would mean a policy for £677 12s.

Our visitor was naturally surprised, and wrote to the Company for an explanation of the contrast which the promises held out with the widely different results. This is the answer he received. It is dated March 8th, and is signed by the General Manager, Mr. J. H. Harrison-Hogge:—

> The figures that were given you twenty years ago were based on the company's experience up to that time, and the difference in the figures now available is mainly due to the great fall in interest. Twenty years ago we were approximating something like 6 per cent. on our total funds, whereas for some years past now it has only been a fraction over 4 pct. cent. The results, however, that you have obtained under your policy cannot be considered anything but satisfactory.
>
> I would also point out that the total surrender of your policy £255 13s., as against the premiums paid of £270 16s. 8d., shows that the total cost for twenty years insurance of £500 has been £15 3s. 8d., or 15s. 2d. a year, a result which I submit you would find it extremely difficult to in any way approximate. I do not know whether you are aware, but during the past few years several companies have reduced their bonuses considerably, and no less than five have passed them altogether.

Comment upon this remarkable letter is surely superfluous.

JOSEPH TRAVERS AND SONS, LIMITED.

We had a word to say last year about the report and balance-sheet of this Company. They were far from satisfactory, but they were pleasant reading as compared with the similar documents for 1908. A year ago there was a balance of profit of £1,677. This year there is an actual loss on trading of £4,678. Last year many reasons were given for the falling off in profits, but then the ordinary dividend, which for nine years had been an unbroken 10 per cent., was 5 per cent. This year the Directors have to take £25,000 from the General Reserve to meet the Preference interest, and after a transfer to the Reserve of £5,500 from the Special Reserve, the total General Reserve is now only £9,254, and there is carried forward £800 only. The explanations offered for the consolation of shareholders are many. Here are some of them:—

(1) Unprofitable character of business generally.

(2) Great fall in prices of commodities.

(3) The severe commercial crises in the Straits Settlements.

Perhaps we may be allowed to add another which does not find a place in the report—speculation in Beet sugar.

TRUSTEE SAVINGS BANKS

With reference to the paragraph that appeared in our issue of March 13th, an Actuary connected with a leading Savings Bank writes to us as follows:—

> I would draw your attention to the paragraphs in the current number of your publication—John Bull—referring to the Trustee Savings Banks' Inspection Committee Report for 1908. It is thought that these paragraphs are by no means just to the Trustee Savings Banks generally, institutions which, in a large majority of cases, have an honourable record behind them of nearly a century's work in the inculcation and maintenance of habits of thrift in the wage-earning classes of the United Kingdom. You are doubtless well acquainted with their general modus operandi, scope, &c.
>
> I do not wish to appear to hold a brief for any particular Trustee Bank, but I would urge most strongly that the shortcomings of the few should not be made a vehicle for conveying a censure on the many.
>
> The report from which you quote is, as you are aware, a public document, and gives details such as should be, but, unfortunately, are not available in connection with other institutions which might be named, of a like nature, and since publicity is given therein to the sins of a small minority, I venture to think it would be more equitable if, instead of drawing attention through the medium of your widely read journal only to these, the adverse features, you went one step further, and in all fairness pointed to the excellent work which is being done by the general body of Trustee Savings Banks, as also set out in the report.
>
> Our methods are helpful, sympathetic, and undoubtedly useful, and any remarks of yours calculated to bring discredit upon us as a class are strongly to be deprecated.
>
> The "man in the street" will probably draw an entirely incorrect inference from your statements, and I would suggest, therefore, that you might usefully turn back from the Appendices from which you take the only really unfavourable facts of any importance, to the body of the report, where you will find much which should qualify your opinion thereof. I believe one of your maxims is—"If you see it in John Bull it is so"—therefore you will be able to calculate the harm which may readily result from your remarks as they stand.

We would point out to our correspondent that the paragraph consisted, with the exception of a single sentence, of quotations from the report of the proceedings of the Inspection Committee of Trustee Savings Banks for the past year. Our only comment was "Altogether a disquieting report," and we do not think our correspondent will seriously dispute the justice of this. For although it is true that the report does not suggest that the practices it exposes are common to the majority of the Trustee Savings Banks, our correspondent under-rates the criticism when he assumes it to apply only to the shortcomings of a few. We are far from suggesting that the Trustee Banks are not doing an excellent work, and that the majority of those responsible for their management are not in every way worthy of confidence, but the report from which we quoted shows quite clearly that there is a considerable minority who, to say the least of it, are very loose in their procedure.

GOLD MINING IN NOVA SCOTIA.

With reference to our remarks under this head in previous issues, we learn that the promoters of the gold properties in Nova Scotia have been successful in floating their Company privately. The concern has been re-named the Eastern Canada Gold Mining Co., Ltd., and has been incorporated with a capital of £60,000. The sum of £25,000 has been subscribed, and doubtless it is the intention of the Directors to unload the balance by-and-bye. We cannot congratulate the people who have found the money, for quite apart from the record of certain of the Directors, the Company will have tremendous difficulties to overcome before it can be made a dividend-paying concern.

THE WOLFRUM (TUNGSTEN) METAL FILAMENT LAMPS, LIMITED.

Our attention has been directed to a set of rules and regulations by which every employee of this Company has to consent to be bound. They are of a very autocratic character. Instant dismissal is the penalty for leaving a parcel or book or paper on the work-table; for entering any other room or department other than his own, excepting or unless specially required to do so by his superiors; for receiving private letters addressed to the works and much else of the same kind. And whilst the Company treats its employees in this summary fashion, it takes heavy toll of their brains. Note this:—

> The company shall have the right to claim as its exclusive property any inventions or improvements made by any employé in any way connected with electric lamps. No special evidence that such an employé dis

covered or made such inventions or improvements during his service, or when using the apparatus or possessions of the company shall be required.

The company shall be entitled at any time to apply for patents for such inventions and improvements under their own or another name in all countries. In countries where the company cannot apply for inventions or improvements under its own name, the employée to do this in his own name at the request and expense of the company. Such patent when obtained shall be forthwith assigned to the company for a nominal consideration of ten shillings.

The ten shillings is good.

We have received the report of the National Guarantee and Suretyship Association for the year 1907-8 with profit and loss account for the year, and general balance on May 30th, 1908. The net premiums for the year after deduction of re-assurances amounted to £25,888, being an increase of £2,004. The surplus of income over expenditure was £10,237, to which is added the balance brought from last account of £1,116, making together £11,354. An interim dividend of 4 per cent. was paid for the half-year ended November 30th last, and the directors now recommend a further dividend of 6 per cent. for the half-year ended May 30th, 1908, and a bonus of 2 per cent. for the year, being a distribution for the year ended May 30th last, at the rate of 12 per cent. upon the paid-up capital of £50,000.

NEW ISSUE.

The Johore Rubber Lands (Malay States) has been formed with a capital of £300,000 in ordinary shares, 200,000 of which are now offered. The Company takes over a concession of 50,000 acres of land within the State of Johore with a view to its being cultivated with rubber and other suitable tropical products. £40,000 is said to have been spent in the development of the property, and 2,600 acres have been planted with rubber. The purchase price is £60,000, and the vendors show their confidence in the future of the Company by taking it all in shares.

FINANCIAL ENQUIRIES.

North Coast Mining and Smelting Company (Washington, U.S.A.).—J. W. Y. (Caversham).—We cannot recommend it.

Hapgood and Company.—C. F. (Redland).—Our information is that they conduct their business honestly. We thank you for your congratulations.

Cox and Company (32, Walbrook).—Bullet (London).—It all depends on the documents you signed, but we fancy they are within their right in claiming the interest for the whole period.

Limited Liability Company.—Kennison (Yeovil).—The only way to do it is through a solicitor, who, in the circumstances, would probably not charge you very much beyond the statutory fees.

Central West Boulder Mining Company.—F. C. S. (Aberdare).—(1) We should sell. (2) It would be a very speculative purchase. (3) Yes, we can speak well of the firm you name. We thank you for your congratulations.

Equitable Exchange.—C. S. B. (Leicester).—We cannot take the responsibility of advising you to agree to the terms.

Caledonian Deferred.—Crepstow.—The answer to your question is in the affirmative.

The British and Foreign Exchange.—G. (Sudbury).—The circular you send us is pestilent rubbish. The British and Foreign Exchange is run by a man named Pelham, whose guarantee, as described in the circular, is worthless.

British South Africa Township Company.—O. C. (Bridgwater).—The answer to both your questions is in the affirmative.

A. B. C. would like to have information about a man named Galbaker, of 1, Lombard Court, E.C. Can any one of our readers furnish it?

Litvine and Company.—A. M. I. (Blackpool).—The fire is the place for the circular, and the answer to your other question is in the negative.

The Atlas Bank.—J. B. (Brighton).—We are not enamoured of the scheme. A. K. (Cold Harbour Lane).—We think not.

Kaffir Consolidated.—W. P. (Eastbourne).—We have nothing to add or take away from what we have said on the subject in recent issues. Paydrus (Llanrwst).—We have not seen the statement of the Official Receiver to which you refer, and shall be much surprised to find that he had made it. We have seen a statement of his to the direct contrary. We know nothing against the Investment Registry to which you refer.

Whitmore Permanent Money Society.—Boldertype (Birmingham).—We cannot say whether the procedure is illegal since you do not explain it. There is nothing illegal in the card you send us.

Universal Stock Exchange.—J. C. T. (Southport).—The Exchange has been in existence many years, and we believe it treats its customers fairly, but whether you would be wise in taking its advice to buy new Chuquitembo Gold Mine shares is another matter.

London and Provincial Bank.—Damson (Gospel Oak).—You need be under no apprehension as to the London and Provincial Bank keeping your money in safety if and whilst you leave it with them. We do not understand your reference to the Birkbeck Bank. Apparently you wish to be impertinent.

United Stock and Share Corporation.—H. J. C. (Waterlooville).—Throw all the circulars you receive from these people into the fire.

Debenture Recovery Office.—W.—We know of nothing to the contrary.

London and Brighton Stock and Share Corporation.—F. C. (Hastings).—It is the usual "blind pool" gamble. Put future circulars in the fire. They are not worth the penny stamp they cost in sending them to us.

Mint Bond.—E. T. (Smethwick).—The bond is of no value. The company is in liquidation.

British Oil and Cake Mills.—R. J. (Grantham).—No.

Johnson, Johnson and Company, Limited.—R. E. P. (Leicester).—Very little, we fear.

Frank Grant.—G. S. B. (Brodwick).—We have no information.

Richd. Jay and Company.—Luton (Luton).—We know nothing against the people you mention, but we do not think they are the right sort of persons for the business you indicate

Brimsdown Lead Company, Limited.—G. H. R. (Leeds).—The papers have been returned to you.

Anglo-Wyoming Oil Fields, Limited.—G. O. (Barnsbury).—We can only say that we are afraid your shares are of very small value.

R. A. Smith and Company.—P. K. (Lewes).—We cannot advise you to accept Messrs. R. A. Smith and Co.'s obliging offer of Golden and Rhodesian shares at 5s. per share.

Outside Stock Exchange.—D. B. (Tredegar).—No, we cannot advise you to have anything to do with this concern, which sends out circulars of a peculiarly impudent kind as to the profits made upon its so-called deals.

Grand Trunks.—G. H. L. (Leeds).—Our advice to you would be to hold all three descriptions of these securities.

Premium Bonds.—Constant Reader (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—We cannot advise you to have anything to do with D. McDonald and Co., whose circular respecting these bonds you send us. S. H. L. (Snettisham).—Messrs. N. Keizer and Co., of 29, Threadneedle Street, E.C

Tanganyikas.—Nemo (Hornsey).—(1) They are extremely speculative. (2) Have nothing to do with either of the firms you name.

Purchase of Bonds.—M. E. S. (Manchester).—If you bought from the firm you name, you may rest assured that everything is in order.

International Securities Corporation.—J. H. L. (Cardiff).—The Official Receiver is the proper person to answer your question as to whether he has the bonds You are a little late in the day in your discovery re International Securities Corporation. Anxious (Birmingham).—The policy is of no value. The company is in liquidation.

London and Paris Exchange.—J. D. L. (Dublin).—You must take your chance with the rest. There can be no preferential treatment. D. A. (Berwick).—Yes, the company has failed. That means, we fear, that the money which was sent up has gone. M. K. A (Liverpool).—We think you should take counsel's opinion. Mr. F. E. Smith's address is 4, Elm Court, Temple, E.C.

Safe Investments.—H. W. (York).—The answer to your two questions is in the affirmative. You may be quite sure that any concern that has Mr. Burt, M.P., for a director is respectable and honestly conducted. As to the other society with its 58 years' record, its financial position seems very sound, and we think you would run no risk whatever in putting money into it. A. F. (Sutton-on-Trent).—The objection to investments of the kind is that you cannot realise your holding if you should want to do so suddenly. Railwayman.—We should prefer shares in home companies. They would give you quite as good, or better, return upon your money.

Outside Brokers.—W. E. B. (Farringdon).—Our advice to you is to have nothing to do with the people you name. Many thanks for your congratulations.

Credit Foncier of Mauritius, Limited.—A. M. (Plumstead).—We think it very unlikely that there will be any improvement in the present value of the shares.

Business Scheme.—Scotch.—You would be entitled to whatever you could induce the persons who might take up the business to agree to give you. We do not know of any book that would be of much use to you in trying to promote a company for the purpose of taking over what you have to sell.

Aurora West United.—Pat (London).—(1) No, we do not consider them cheap at 8s. 9d. (2) Yes, the tape prices are supposed to be records of actual dealings.

Imperial Tobacco Company.—W. T. A.—We have no means of ascertaining how many Trade Unionists there are at the works of this company in Bristol.

London Joint Stock Banking Company.—Lancastrian (Blackpool).—We do not anticipate much change in the quotation just now. The investment is a very sound one, but you will bear in mind the heavy liability upon the shares.

INSURANCE ENQUIRIES.

National Old Age Pension Society.—A. S. (South Lambeth).—We know nothing about the case to which you refer, but we do not recommend Mr Taverner's Trust for reasons we have frequently given.

Provident House Building Society.—E. T. M. (Padstow).—We know of no hing to its disadvantage.

The Tunbridge Wells Benefit Building Society.—J. E. (Wakefield).—(1) We do not quite understand your question. Is it an advance you want upon your interest in the society? (2) We are much obliged to you for your good wishes and congratulations.

Equity Permanent Building Society.—Dundas (Streatham).—We know nothing to its prejudice.

Sceptre Life Association.—Brum (Birmingham).—It is a well-managed and prosperous undertaking.

Prudential Insurance Company.—F. B. (West Brompton).—It depends upon the terms of the policy. You should consult a solicitor. W. B. J. (Bristol).—We do not remember having received the further particulars we asked for. Can you send us a copy of your letter giving them?

National Deposit Friendly Society.—J. B. (Brighton).—The answer to your question is in the affirmative. W. F. B. (Leytonstone).—We cannot fathom the meaning of your question.

Rational Association Friendly Society.—N. F. (Northfield).—We know nothing to the contrary.

Old Age Pensions.—Darian (Aberdare).—The old age pension scheme of the Norwich Life Assurance Society has much to recommend it. As to your comparison with the One and All, it is absurd. That unfortunate venture was a mushroom affair, promising from the outset what it could not hope to perform. The Norwich Union Life Insurance Society is an office of high standing, and more than a century old.

Provident Association of London.—J. B. B. (Didsbury).—The association is well managed and financially strong.

Albion Assurance Association.—H. S. (Leeds).—We are not able to recommend it.

Workman and General Society.—W. L. (Aldershot).—It is all right.

Provincial Homes Investment Company.—J. C. (Brighton).—Of course, if you discontinue your payments, the money you have already paid will be lost. We should continue.

General Union Mutual Benefit Association.—F. G. E. (Newark).—We have no information respecting it.

Two Insurance Companies.—F. E. L. (Aberdare).—We are not able to recommend either.

Salvation Assurance Company.—G. A. E. (Canning Town).—It is impossible for us to express an opinion upon the merits of a quarrel between yourself and your late employers. If you cannot come to terms, and you think you have been robbed, the only way to settle it is by appeal to the Courts.

British Natural Premium Company.—Information (Manchester).—The answer to your question is in the negative.

The Scottish Sickness and Accident Company.—C. R. H. (Bridgwater).—The answer is in the negative.

Manufacturers' Life Assurance Company.—E. B. (Somerset).—It is a respectable and progressive office.

Refuge Assurance Company.—F. K. (Newcastle-on-Tyne).—The answer depends upon whether you are saying the thing that is not, or the company. You say that in 1905 you took out a certain policy, and that in January, 1909, you doubled it. Soon afterwards the person on whose life the policy rested died. The company say he died before you took out the second policy. You say he did not. If he did, you are entitled to nothing upon the second policy, and the company are justified in refusing to pay you anything. If he did not, you may be entitled to the money. It ought to be quite easy for you to prove by means of your receipt whether it was as you say or as the company says.

The Majestic Insurance Company.—D. W. W. (Dinas).—Certainly not. Send us particulars of any case of the kind to which you refer, and we will deal with it. We gather from your letter from the company you send us that they decline to accept further premiums from you, which is quite another matter. We return you your policy, card, and letter.

British Homes Assurance Corporation.—A. S. E. (Gloucester).—Yes, quite sound.

One and All Sickness and Accident Assurance Association.—Wary (Glasgow).—You ought to know by this time that the association is in liquidation.

AMONG THE LAWYERS.

IMPRISONMENT FOR DEBT.

We have received the following. The writer's point deserves attention :—

Anent the discussion upon the above subject, there is one phase of it—and that I think a very serious one—which I have never seen commented upon in the Press, viz. :—It is the practice in the County Courts with which I am familiar, and I suppose in all others, to make to bailiffs an allowance on conveyance of debtors to prison which, after payment of railway fares and other expenses leaves them a considerable sum—4s.—and often over—for their own pockets.

With such an inducement as this held before them it is no wonder that bailiffs lose no opportunities of conveying debtors to gaol, and I have known cases in which debtors have been hurried off after arrest by the first possible train in order that the prison governor's certificate, which alone entitles them, the bailiffs, to their allowance, might be obtained before the warrants could be paid; and further, it is a notorious fact that market trains and excursions convey a good percentage of the debtors—of course, to the further interests and advantage of the bailiff.

Now surely it is a mistake to encourage imprisonment in this way, and I am of the opinion that if it were stopped the number of persons lodged in gaol for debt would considerably decrease.

Then as to the general question of imprisonment for debt. Before a Commitment order is made it must be proved to the Court that the person against whom it is sought has the means of obeying the previous order of Court. There cannot therefore be much to complain of if a person deliberately ignores an order of Court, and is consequently imprisoned. So long as the present credit system holds there must be some way of enforcing payment, and with the growth of the furniture hire-purchase system executions against the goods of debtors of the working class have become almost useless.

If there must be a reform of the law let it commence by stopping imprisonment for debts in respect of goods sold by travelling jewellers and others of the "packy" class, who undoubtedly do their business on the assumption that payment can be enforced by threat of imprisonment; or limit imprisonment to debts in respect of necessaries in the same way as the liability of infants is limited. But if a person comes to me for groceries, and after reasonable credit refuses to pay, surely there should be some means—execution failing—of enforcing payment.

FINDINGS NOT KEEPINGS.

Really it is very difficult to write with moderation of the action of the police in many cases in which they are concerned. Take the following. George Graham, a labouring man of 53, was charged at Marylebone with stealing by finding. The facts were not in dispute. Graham found a gold watch which a young lady had lost whilst walking from Craven Hill, Bayswater, to the Round Pond, Kensington. Instead of taking it to Scotland Yard, Graham took it home, and his wife, thinking she was entitled to do what she liked with a thing found, sought to sell or pawn the watch. Thereupon the police arrested Graham and charged him as stated. "Is there anything known against the character of this man?" asked Mr. Plowden. To which the detective replied, "He is a man of good character." "Then why on earth," retorted Mr. Plowden, "charge him with stealing?" "Because," replied the detective, "he had not taken the necessary steps of reporting the matter to the police." In dismissing the charge, Mr. Plowden told the man that he left the Court "without a stain of any kind on his character." The magistrate went on to remind the police that it is not everybody that knows that if he finds a thing he must take it to Scotland Yard. "You must not," said the magistrate, "presume that because a person does not do that when he finds something, he has therefore stolen it. There is not a particle of reason or ground for taking this man into custody. It is exceedingly hard upon a man, who is honest and of good character, and who happens to pick up a thing, to charge him with stealing it." Let us hope the police will bear in mind this very necessary piece of advice.

A MATTER FOR INQUIRY.

We have had a visit from ex-Detective Holdaway, who complains that he has been very unfairly treated by the Authorities, and has been the victim of unscrupulous conduct on the part of certain subordinate Officers and others connected with the Force. Into the merits of his case we do not propose to go at present. We only wish to say that Holdaway has addressed a petition to the Director of Public Prosecutions praying that action may be taken against certain persons he charges with perjury. Petitions of the kind, when not backed by great influence, are apt to be disregarded. We hope, however, that the Public Prosecutor will give his attention to this particular petition, since it contains much matter that, as it seems to us, is deserving of it. Holdaway is also appealing to the Authorities of Scotland Yard to re-consider his case, and here again we hope that Sir Edward Henry will give it his personal attention, for, as it seems to us, Holdaway, whose record in the Police Force was an excellent one, has been made the victim of a very disgraceful conspiracy. Here again, we do not want to dogmatise, but only to urge the Authorities to approach the petition with open minds and a desire to get at the truth, even though its discovery may upset some previous decisions.

PRELIMINARY ENQUIRIES.

Some observations of Mr. Justice Phillimore, when discharging Mr. T. J. Davis, charged at the Central Criminal Court with forging and uttering a Deed, purporting to be an Indenture of Settlement, deserve to be noted. Mr. Justice Phillimore said; :—

> Before you, go, I want to make one remark. It is really not so much for you as other people. I have no doubt you were very ably represented atthe police-court and I make no suggestion against the counsel or solicitor who represented you. But it shows to my mind, as it shows to many Judges' minds, the mischief that arises from the ingrained idea that people do better to reserve their defence. I believe that if you had told this story at the police-court you would never have had all this to go through. I am glad to be able to say that you can go.

So perhaps *Rex* v. *Bottomley* has done some good after all.

HUMAN DOCUMENT.—XXXVIII.

We direct attention to the following letter, and shall be glad if any reader can give our correspondent a berth. We have satisfied ourselves that he is a worthy man, and we must confess surprise that the fact of his marriage should be considered by employers a bar to employment :—

> I beg to make myself one more of your already long list of "Human Documents." I am an assistant in the grocery and provision trades, and also understand confectionery and tobacco, and have been in touch with oil, colour, and wines and spirits. I have been in these allied trades since I was fourteen years of age, and am now thirty-three. I can also give excellent references from any of my previous employers as to honesty and business capabilities, and yet I am unable to obtain employment of any kind, for why? One reason is that I am too old at thirty-three, and the other, that I have committed the awful crime of getting married. I was discharged from my last situation (with another man) after fifteen months' satisfactory service, for the sole reason that we were married men, the other man only having been married a few months. That was the first week in November of last year; since then I have been unable to find employment. The little money we had been able to save out of my small wages has all gone. I have two children, one only three weeks old, and I do not know which way to turn now to get them food, only by selling up our little home, bit by bit, and that at a great sacrifice. I have been so far too proud to apply for relief from charities or relieving officers, having a great dread of such places, but am afraid I shall have to if, as Mr. Micawber says, something does not soon turn up. I am smart and intelligent, and could turn my hand to a good many things, such as porter, warehouseman, or messenger, &c., &c. If any of your thousands of readers could offer me a berth in shop, warehouse, or any capacity, I should be deeply grateful; or, if any charitable lady or gentleman would care to start me in a small business, I feel sure I could make it pay, having had such long experience at shop work.

Human Document.—XXXV.

With reference to this case we have received a very nice letter from the writer of the document, in which he informs us that he has obtained employment with a company of repute, and thanks us, apparently with much sincerity, for bringing his case to the notice of our readers. He tells us that he has written to the many other gentlemen who offered him assistance and whose addresses we sent him, to thank them for their offers, and it only remains for us to wish him pleasant experience in his new position, and a brighter future than his past has been.

Bottomley's Book is now ready. See page iii. of Cover for a Summary of the Contents.

A Prospectus has been issued which states, among other things, that the full Prospectus has been filed with the Registrar of Joint Stock Companies.

The LIST of APPLICATIONS will OPEN on Monday, 22nd March, 1909, and close on or before Thursday, 25th March, 1909.

THE JOHORE RUBBER LANDS (MALAY STATES)

(Incorporated under the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1907.) **LIMITED.**

SHARE CAPITAL · £300,000

Divided into 300,000 Shares of £1 each.

200,000 SHARES are NOW BEING OFFERED for SUBSCRIPTION at par.

Payable as follows: 1s. per share on Application, 1s. 6d. per share on Allotment, 2s. 6d. per share one month after Allotment, and the balance in calls of not exceeding 5s. per share at intervals of not less than two months.

No cash being payable in respect of purchase consideration, the whole of the moneys received in respect of this issue will be available as Working Capital and the general purposes of the Company, subject only to payment of promotion expenses.

DIRECTORS.

GEORGE GRAY ANDERSON, 16, Philpot Lane, London, E.C. (Chairman Consolidated Malay Rubber Estates, Limited), Chairman.

SIR GEORGE AUGUSTUS PILKINGTON, Kt., Belle Vue, Southport, Lancashire (Director Manchester and County Bank, Limited; and Chairman Bandarapola Ceylon Company, Limited).

A. R. WILSON WOOD, 7, Abbotsford Crescent, St. Andrews, N.B. (Managing Director Vallambrosa Rubber Company, Limited).

THOMAS A. GALLIE, 153, St. Vincent Street, Glasgow (Director Selangor Rubber Company, Limited).

JOSEPH RAMSDEN, Little Hulton, Lancashire (Managing Director William Ramsden and Sons, Limited).

FRANK THURLOW WRIGHT, Tyldesley, nr. Manchester, Lancashire (Chairman Calphele Tea and Rubber Estates, Limited).

ARTHUR HENRY BAGNALL, Wellesborne, Warwick (Director Sungei Salak Rubber Company, Limited).

PATRICK GOW, 13, Rood Lane, London, E.C. (Managing Director Gow, Wilson, and Stanton, Limited).

KARL KIRCHBERGER (representing His Highness the Sultan of Johore), 49, Lime Street, London, E.C. (Director Katz Brothers, Limited).

BANKERS.

PARR'S BANK, Limited, Bartholomew Lane, London, E.C.

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA, AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA, Hatton Court, London, E.C.

VISITING AGENTS.

J. A. MACGREGOR, Visiting Agent of the Anglo-Malay Rubber Company, Limited.

F. M. PORCHER, Manager Consolidated Malay Rubber Estates, Limited.

AGENTS IN KUALA LUMPUR.

HARRISONS and CROSFIELD, Limited, 3, Great Tower Street, E.C., and at Kuala Lumpur, F.M.S.

ESTATES MANAGER.—H. E. BURGESS, Buloh Kasap.

PRODUCE BROKERS.

GOW, WILSON, and STANTON, Limited, 13 Rood Lane, London, E.C.

SOLICITORS.—MAYO, ELDER, and Co., 10, Drapers' Gardens, London, E.C.

BROKERS.

LONDON: LINTON, CLARKE, and Co., 7, Drapers' Gardens, E.C.

EDINBURGH: MACGREGOR and BANKS, 2, St. Andrew Square.

MANCHESTER: DAVID Q. HENRIQUES and Co., 13, Pall Mall.

AGENTS IN LONDON.—LYALL, ANDERSON, and Co., 16, Philpot Lane, E.C.

AUDITORS.

A. DANGERFIELD and Co., 56, Cannon Street, London, E.C., Chartered Accountants.

SECRETARY AND REGISTERED OFFICE.

R. STEWART, F.C.I.S., 16, PHILPOT LANE, LONDON, E.C.

ABRIDGED PROSPECTUS.

This Company has been incorporated for the purpose of taking over a Grant or Concession made in January, 1906 (for the main provisions of which see inset with prospectus), by His Highness the Sultan of Johore to the Malay Peninsula (Johore) Rubber Concessions (Limited), for the right to select, hold, and deal with 50,000 acres of land within the State and Territory of Johore, with a view to its being cultivated with Rubber or other suitable Tropical products. Leases are to be granted (when applied for in accordance with the Concession) for a term of 999 years at a rent of 20 cents per acre for the first year and 50 cents per ann. per acre thereafter. Until leases are taken up under the terms of the Concession, or until this Company renounce their right to take up a lease of any particular block or blocks, 10 cents per acre is payable by way of yearly quit rent up to 29th October, 1909, and thereafter 20 cents per acre is payable for selected land until leases are granted.

The purchase price (viz., £60,000) payable to the Vendor Company, which is to be discharged wholly in fully paid shares, plus the right to the Vendor Company by themselves or their nominees to subscribe for in cash at par at any time within three years from the incorporation of the Company, 32,000 shares in the Company's Capital or any part thereof, is considered by the Directors to be a most reasonable one. The Company also takes over the rights and liabilities of the Vendor Company on certain current contracts as set out below.

These 50,000 acres were selected in two sections, 20,000 being situate on the Muar River and known as the Muar Section, and 30,000 being situated on the Segamat River, and known as the Segamat Section; 2,500 acres or thereabouts of the Muar Section (which are not included in the present sale) were sold by the Vendor Company at a very considerable profit soon after the cultivation of land had commenced. About 2,600 acres have been planted with Rubber, leaving about 44,900 uncleared. The survey of both sections has been completed.

The position of the land is excellent, and the Johore State Railway extends along the whole of the southern boundary of the properties. There are three railway stations adjacent to and one on the estate, thus affording excellent transport facilities.

This Company will take over the Concessions as from the 31st December, 1908, by which date over £40,000 had been spent by the Vendors in the development of the estate, the planting about 2,600 acres with Rubber (the earlier planting being 24 by 12 and the later 18 by 18) in the establishment of an extensive depot (about one mile from Buloh Kasap Station) and a large nursery, and the erection of Manager's bungalow, clerk's quarters, stores, shop, house, coolie lines, bungalows, dresser's quarters, hospital, and other necessary buildings. All the buildings of the depot site are well built and well laid out, and great care has been taken over the water supply and sanitary arrangements. The above amount includes about £5,000 expended on the 2,500 acres which were sold.

The total areas which the Company acquires is 47,500 acres. Assuming that the Company retains for its own purposes 20,000 acres (of which 10,000 will be cultivated with rubber), there will be left 27,500 acres available for sale, of which it is proposed to plant 8,850 acres with rubber.

The purchase price paid by the Company in fully-paid shares is £60,000. Taking the cultivated area, namely, about 2,600 acres (some of which is two-year-old rubber) at only £15 per acre, equals £39,000, leaving the cost to the Company of the uncultivated area, about 44,900 acres, £31,000, or rather less than 10s. per acre, whereas Messrs. J. A. Macgregor and F. M. Porcher value the "Jungle Land" at £3 per acre (vide estimate enclosed with prospectus), and the cash price actually received by the Vendor Company for the sale in 1907 of rubber under one year old, was £12 per acre, and for the uncultivated area £3 per acre.

The sole reason for the present issue is to provide the Company with the necessary funds to extend the cultivation of the Company's territory in accordance with the recommendations of Messrs. Macgregor and Porcher, and in consideration of this working capital being provided, the vendors accept the purchase price, as already stated, entirely in shares of the Company.

Thus the Company, without waiting for the Rubber to mature, will have 27,500 acres available for sale, of which part will be planted, and from which considerable early profits should be derived, having regard to the prices which obtain for Rubber lands, and the estimate accompanying the prospectus by Messrs. J. A. Macgregor and F. M. Porcher, from which it will be seen that they value—

Newly planted rubber at	£12 per acre.
One year old	£20 "
Two year old	£40 "
Three year old	£60 "

The Scheme for dealing with the land outlined in the estimate accompanying prospectus by Messrs. J. A. Macgregor and F. M. Porcher, contemplates the opening of 18,850 acres with Rubber by the end of 1913.

From these estimates it will be seen:—

(a) That very considerable profits should accrue from the sale of cultivated and uncultivated land.

(b) That altogether it is estimated 18,850 acres will have been planted with rubber by 1913.

(c) That, taking this cultivated land alone at a moderate valuation, it should by 1913 be of the value of £262,000.

(d) That taking the selling price of rubber at the low figure of 2s. 6d. per pound, (the present price being about 5s. per pound).

The net profit in 1913 should be at least £33,250.

" " 1914 " " £61,300

And when 10,000 acres arrive at maturity, £262,500 per annum.

The current prices of the shares of some of the principal Rubber Companies in the Malay Peninsula are as follows:—

Company.	Nominal Value.	Price on 10th March 1909.
Anglo-Malay Rubber Company, Limited	£1	£4 1/2
Consolidated Malay Rubber Estates, Limited	£1	£3 7/8
Linggi Plantations, Limited	2s.	13s. 0d.
Selangor Rubber Company, Limited	2s.	20s. 0d.
Vallambrosa Rubber Company, Limited	2s.	16s. 0d.
Lanadron Rubber Estates, Limited	£1 (10s. paid)	10s. 6d. premium

With the exception of the payment of the usual preliminary expenses, including the legal costs and other expenses of the incorporation of the Company, of the preparation, issue and advertising of this Prospectus, of underwriting the shares now offered for subscription, and the cost of transferring the Concession to this Company, and the expenditure upon the property since 31st December, 1908, the whole of the proceeds of this issue will be available as working capital for the Company.

By the Articles of Association the minimum subscription upon which the Directors may proceed to allotment is 100,000 shares of £1 each, to be issued upon the terms that the whole amount thereof shall be payable in cash.

The further information required to be given in pursuance of the Companies Acts is contained in the full Prospectus.

The Company will pay a brokerage of 3d. per share upon all shares allotted upon applications bearing brokers' stamps.

It is intended in due course to apply to the Committee of the Stock Exchange for a settlement and quotation of the Company's shares.

Applications must be made on the form accompanying the prospectus, and forwarded to the Company's Bankers, together with a remittance of 1s. per share.

If the number of shares allotted to any applicant is less than the number applied for by such applicant, the excess amount paid on application will be held in or towards payment of the amount payable on allotment, and the balance (if any) will be returned; when no allotment be made the amount paid will be returned in full.

Prospectuses (upon the terms of which applications will alone be received) and Forms of Application may be obtained from the Bankers, Brokers, and Solicitors, and at the offices of the Company.

20th March, 1909.

THE HURLY BURLY.

By Theodore Dahle.

INTRICACIES OF THE JUVENILE SMOKING ACT.

This is to give notice to parents and guardians in permanent or temporary charge of boys, apparently under the age of sixteen years, that on and after the first day of April next said boys must smoke the woeful Woodbine no more in the ways of men. The late lamented Charles Lamb defined the first of April as everybody's day out. Taking one consideration with another, however, I am inclined to think that boys under sixteen who wish to smoke on that day had better stay in.

I do not doubt that the tobacconist, who has hitherto relied for the major portion of his profits on the sale of cigarettes to children, will have some difficulty in deciding when a boy is within the meaning of the Act. "Apparently under the age of sixteen years" is a term which offers large opportunities of misinterpretation. Some tobacconists will judge according to size and some according to cheek, and I can see myself kept waiting for my tobacco while Tommy is being cross-examined as to whether his mother knows he is out and has sent his certificate of birth with him. In one street, youths of nineteen who stand four-feet-nothing, will be disrespectfully requested to depart the precincts; in another, boys of fifteen standing five-feet-four will have all their wants supplied and receive a genial "Thank you" for their custom. A boy rejected at Sam and Gluck's as being apparently within the meaning of the Act will scout around till he happens on a tobacconist who is receiving an old-age pension—and whose sight is not what it used to be, and will presently emerge with a penn'orth of the best he can get for money and a smile that won't come off. At least, it won't come off till he lights up and runs into the arms of a policeman. Then the policeman will demand to know where the boy obtained his fuel. If he cannot tell a lie there will be a heap of trouble for the old man, for Tommy, and for Tommy's parents.

Probably it will also happen that a nice little boy sixteen years old will be refused a penny packet for no other reason than that he doesn't look it, and in that case he will either raise himself to his full height and want to know whether the tobacconist knows who he is insulting, or he will leave the shop in silent scorn, invest threepence in a tremendous moustache, stick it on with gum-spirit, and stride into the shop across the way with a commanding air and receive his penn'orth as a citizen of no mean city. I am aware that the Legislature cannot think of everything, but they might at least have remembered Little Tich. I fear that under this Act, if Little Tich wants to purchase a cigar, he will have to send out for it. It may even be that one of these fine mornings he will get an advertisement in a police-court for being found smoking in the public street contrary to by the statute.

Despite these complications and difficulties, it is at least possible that the Act will accomplish a powerful work for good. I believe it will teach boys not only the decencies of public life, but also the virtues of private thrift. Instead of spending their Saturday pennies on cigarettes and smoking in the street as if they were somebody in particular, when in reality they are nobody worth mentioning, they will probably burgle their father's tobacco-pouch as occasion serves and opportunity offers and "make his own." This done, it may be that they will take a walk to unfrequented fields, and there enjoy themselves or, peradventure, retire to the upper reaches of the house and puff their sacred and solemn thoughts up the chimney. I do not contemplate the risks they will take in this latter case, but, if one of their parents should catch them bending, I feel sure their portion will be weeping and wailing and gnashing of teeth.

I am conscious it may be urged with a certain force of plausibility that the child of our hearts and hopes will neither take the trouble to deceive the tobacconist nor swell the accumulated deposits of the penny banks, but that, on the contrary, he will seek the nearest automatic machine and put his penny in the slot, receiving therefor two cigarettes, man's size, in return for his investment. It may be so, for it is not possible to speak dogmatically as to the intentions of a large and precocious population until the Act has the force and sanction of operative law. There is, however, a rumour current that the various automatic machine companies are already preparing for emergencies and are anticipating an increase in dividends.

THE NEW HOT-AIR BATHING

Another Straightforward Talk by the Turkish Bath Man:

It is very seldom the pioneer of a great work gets the credit for it—but if the work in itself is good, that does not matter. I have talked to you about hot-air bathing, many a time. I am regarded by people who do not know me and my hot-air baths as a man foolishly obsessed by one idea. Well,—that may be so. But, then, I know my bath, and thousands of people who were constantly ill, and through my bath are habitually well, endorse my views. They know I have a great faith, but they also know my faith is justified by many great cures.

Now—the London Hospital has laid down a hot-air cure, owing to the generosity of Princess Hatzfeldt. In this great hospital the treatment is doing a wonderful work amongst the needy East End poor. But its work must be limited.

For years I have stood alone, a solitary missionary, selling cheap and effective hot-air baths for the home. I may claim to have introduced the hot-air bath in a practical manner to the English home in the form of the Gem 30s. Cabinet. I have been curing Rheumatism, Lumbago, Sciatica, Gout, Neuralgia, and many other afflictions by my Gem Cabinet by this hot-air treatment for many years.

But I did not invent Hot-Air Treatment any more than the London Hospital has done. The benefit of Hot-Air bathing was known to the Romans, in the heyday of that Empire. I did give the Hot-Air principle its most practical form in this way: Instead of making tedious visits to Turkish Baths—the only available method for many years, my Cabinet has made the hot-air bath possible in your bathroom or bedroom.

The treatment at the London Hospital is excellent. But it can only treat about sixty patients a day, and to produce a permanent cure these patients must be treated often, to the exclusion of patients on the waiting list. The only alternative is to give relief and to leave the cure incomplete.

Now here is my point. It is not necessary to have an abnormal 220-degree temperature to secure a cure by hot air. The main point is to have a simple and safe means of getting a good temperature—say 160 degrees—sufficient to induce profuse perspiration, thus relieving the body of the impurities that cause disease, and to take the baths often and regularly. In a Turkish Bath this is expensive. In a busy London Hospital it is impossible.

But 30s. will bring my Gem Bath Cabinet complete to your own house, with every essential for a regular hot-air bath as often as you like, and a bath costs less than 1½d.

Without the introduction of my 30s. Gem Turkish Bath Cabinet, regular, long-continued treatment by hot air—the only sucessful treatment for many ailments—would be impossible. It gives the maximum benefit possible in the treatment of Rheumatism, Gout, Sciatica, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Nervous Trouble, Liver and Kidney diseases, Eczema, and Impaired Digestion at a minimum of cost and a minimum of trouble.

And with this Cabinet you can not only have the hot-air (that is, dry-air) treatment, but you may have steam, medicated, or perfumed baths, at no extra cost for apparatus. No visits to public Turkish baths, no breathing nauseating atmosphere, and the avoidance of publicity are all strong points in my system.

I can guarantee good results from regular Hot-Air Baths to almost anyone. My bath will keep the whole household hygienically clean—cleaner than you can keep yourself by soap and hot-water bathing. When there is a disease it cures.

When there is no disease it makes a healthy man or woman feel better, brighter, stronger, and more virile. When tired, it refreshes. When chilled, it wards off cold. When nervous and irritable, it soothes and composes for peaceful sleep.

You can try my bath at my risk, for a week. If you feel, after purchasing a Gem Turkish Bath Cabinet, that it is not doing you any good, at the end of seven days you can send it back.

I will return your money by next post. You need not explain, or write long letters. I expect you to take my word, and am prepared to take yours. And to prove my sincerity I am willing to accept a money order post-dated ten days, so that you don't run the slightest risk of losing your money.

At least, if I haven't yet convinced you of the value of hot-air bathing, let me send you my valuable 100-page booklet. It contains a mass of information from medical, hygienic, and common-sense sources. It costs you nothing beyond a simple request, mentioning this paper, on a halfpenny postcard. Cheques and postal orders should be made payable to my Company, the Gem N Supplies Co., Ltd., 22, Pear Tree Street, Goswell Road (near Gas Company's Office), London, E.C.

THE GEM N SUPPLIES CO., LTD., John Bull

22, Pear Tree Street, Goswell Road, London, E.C.

Enclosed find Money Order value 30s., for which send me one 30s. No. 1 Standard Bath Cabinet. This Money Order is sent on the understanding that I am at liberty to return the Cabinet within the next ten days and my Money Order will be returned.

Name .....

Address .....

A POLITICAL LEXICON.

BY W. M.

A.

ABOLISH (*Intransitive verb; active voice, but passive mood*).—To threaten; words, not deeds: *as* the Government and the House of Lords.

ABORTIVELY (*Imperfect proposition*).—Immaturely; in an untimely manner; *as* the Licensing Bill.

ABROAD (*Distinctive noun*).—The best place for British capital: *vide* Mr. Asquith and other financial authorities.

ADHESIVE (*Adjective justified*).—Sticky; tenacious: *as* the Government to office.

ADMIRALTY (*Noun; from the Norwegian*).—Refuge for Education Department failures.

ADOLESCENT (*Transitive adjective*).—Advancing to manhood: *as* Winston Churchill.

ADULATION (*Verb; too active*).—A fawning; high compliment: *e.g.*, Mr. Haldane and the *Daily Mail*.

ADVERSE (*Interjection—and rejection*).—Turned against; hostile: *as* Glasgow.

AFFECTIONATE (*Adjective; persistent mood*).—Tender; loving; fond: *as* the Suffragists towards Cabinet Ministers.

ANSWER (*Noun; conditonal tense; reluctant mood*).—The evasion of a request for information: *as* Ministers' replies to questions in Parliament.

ANTI-STROPHE (*Noun; too common*).—Turning again: *as* Gibson Bowles.

APOSTLE (*Interjection; exclamation*).—One sent forth: *as* Victor Grayson.

APOTHEOSIS (*Transfigurative verb*).—A deification; a placing among the gods *or lords*: *as* Thomas Shaw.

APPROACH (*Verb; future tense—not very*).—Act of drawing near: *as* the dissolution and General Election next June.

AQUARIUMS (*Noun; sober mood*).—The water-bearer: *as* Sir Thomas Whittaker.

ATROPHY (*Verb; indicative mood*).—A wasting away: *as* the Government.

ATTACHMENT (*Verb; reluctant mood*).—Fidelity; tender regard: *as* Ministers to office.

ATTENUATE (*Verb; territorial mood*).—To make thin: *as* the Army.

AURIFEROUS (*Adjective; predatory mood*).—That which yields or produces gold: *as* hen-roosts.

AURORA BOREALIS (*Noun; warning tense; surprising case*).—The northern frights: *as* the Glasgow bye-election.

NATAL JUSTICE JUSTIFIED.

Dinuzulu: I should really like to know
Why on earth I've got to go.
Jan Van Bull: Coal is goot in Zululand,
Und der niggurs for de Rand.
Dinuzulu: Are you not a Christian race?
Jan Van Bull: Dot is quite anoder case.
Dinuzulu: Have you not a Christian king?
Jan Van Bull: Dot is quite anoder ting.
Dinuzulu: Scripture says, *Thou shalt not steal.*
Jan Van Bull: Dot is law haf been repeal.
Dinuzulu: Still I do not understand.
Why this trial so underhand?
Jan Van Bull: Dot is Justice, to haf trial,
So der can be no denial.

E. H. VIZIAK.

LEARN AND EARN MONEY.

CONJURING.

The man who can perform a few tricks will quickly increase the number of his acquaintances, and in many occupations to have friends is to have business. Apart from this, I have pupils who are now earning hundreds a year as Entertainers without interfering with their daily employment. Magic is a delightful home hobby. Will you write us? Will you see me?

JAMES PORTLAND.

The recognised Teacher of Sleight of Hand.

Alroy House, Alroy Road, Finsbury Park, N.

Telephone: 614 Tottenham.

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SOUTHAMPTON BUILDINGS, HIGH HOLBORN, W.C.

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allowed on Deposit Accounts, repayable on demand.

2 PER CENT. INTEREST

on Drawing Accounts with Cheque Book.

All general Banking Business transacted.

ALMANACK with full particulars, POST FREE.

C. F. RAVENSCROFT, Secretary

BARRANCA MINES, MEXICO

SUCCESSFUL DEVELOPMENTS AROUSE GREAT INTEREST.

RESULTS OF SPECIAL ORE TESTS.

To those who realise that mining shares in a company that is reaching towards a brilliant success offer a splendid means of investment it will come as good news that the Barranca Mines (Mexico), Ltd., have recently recorded a distinct success.

The progress of the Barranca Mines has been keenly watched, as it is considered among a group of experts that herein is property of distinct value. Before the complete formation of the Company exhaustive tests were made which led to the establishment of great hopes. These hopes have evidently been realised, for the following report from the Mines Superintendent has recently come to hand. Its favourable tone should be noted by those who are seeking an opportunity of securing a good investment.

Mr. F. G. Foreshaw, the Mines Superintendent, says: "For confirmation of the several bulk tests made at Denver, Colorado, San Francisco, and Los Angeles, California, and to check assays, samples were sent to an umpire, the Company securing a cash settlement on the highest assay claimed by the mine management for the further twenty tons shipped to Hermosillo by mules, and thence to the American Smelting Company at El Paso by rail (an exceptional distance of about 600 miles). Gross value of the mineral contents: Silver was 56.81 dollars, gold 24.89 dollars U.S. currency, totalling £8 7s. English. Smelting charges cost 16 dollars, Mexican Government tax 7.39 dollars, leaving value of 58.30 dollars, or £13 13s. Railway freight at 10 dollars left the value of the ore at 58.30 dollars, £11 13s. English, less 18 dollars mule freight, or net proceeds of £8 1s. 3d. per tons of 2,000 lbs. Shaft sinking now proceeding is in ore, values of which increase as we go down. The new railway, which will reach within three miles of the mines, is now near El Facimiento, below La Dura.

This report must certainly be regarded as satisfactory, and particluarly the reference with regard to the railway. As it is calculated that only a few months will pass before the Company has full use of the railway, it may be taken that in the near future great developments will take place.

From the figures given in the brief report quoted it is proved that should the expectations that may be justly founded be proved, the Company will be obtaining a full return on its capital. The working expenses are keeping well within their due proportion, and with this part receiving careful attention investors will find their money bringing in good returns.

It must be remembered that the gross value of ore, £18 7s., is exceptionally high, and there are few mines showing this excellent figure on their products.

Barranca Mines certainly need careful attention; the good reports to hand promise a distinct rise in the price of these shares, and discriminating buyers are advised to keep a good look out for any that are going.

If any reader of JOHN BULL would like further information on the subject he should write to Barranca Mines (Mexico), Ltd., 3, Lombard Street, London, E.C., when the Secretary of the Company will supply full details. For the convenience of readers we may mention that the Company's telephone number is Bank 8265.—ADVT.

JOHN BULL'S WOMENFOLK.

By Mrs. Bull.

The Importance of the Cook.

Miss Spencer, of the Central Bureau for Women's Employment, speaks wise words in advising girls to take up only work of a type for which there is a public demand. The despair of the Bureau are the numbers of untrained women who seek "any position of trust"—who hope to earn board and lodging as "chaperons," "companions," "housekeepers in a small family," and other such delightful but "few and far between" sorts of situations. Miss Spencer says that even now there are not sufficient skilled workers in either the food or dress professions. Truly, as the poet saith, "Civilized man cannot live without cooks," and it is comforting to reflect that the persons who can dish up a decent meal will never fail to find someone only too delighted to give them a share of the food they cook. There is a tremendous difference in the payment of men and women in this occupaion. Even if likewise acting as housekeeper, a first-class feminine cook is considered well paid at £100 a year, while many a man gets four or five times that sum. King Edward's *chef* is paid £1,000 per annum, the same salary being given the *chef* who recently quitted a leading Paris Club to serve the King of Spain. But women-cooks do not get these superior situations, partly because, not being taught to view the profession as high art as men-cooks have a way of doing, they do not give it the same amount of serious study. A lad will enter a kitchen and go patiently through many years of apprenticeship—a girl is apt to deem herself fully equipped after a dozen lessons at a cookery school. The men, too, who produce these triumphant dinners are frightfully extravagant—a real artist refuses to remain in a place where the kitchen expenditure is limited in any way. And indeed parsimony is incompatable with high-class cookery—omelettes necessitate broken eggs. Excellent was the answer of Soyer to the complaint made by Sir Francis Burdett to the Reform Club Committee that eighteenpence was charged for the sauce over the red mullet—"Does Sir F. Burdett suppose that the mullet comes out of the sea with my sauce in its pocket?" So it is the economy that usually has to be considered by women-cooks that to some extent hinders their excelling.

New Hats for the Spring.

While some doubt lingers even yet concerning the trend of Fashion in many directions, the style of the new season's millinery is quite settled. Really the resources of the designers seem never ending—each year we see something novel and pleasing. There are several new main features shown now—one is the profuse use of gleaming jet, as beads, fringes, bosses, embroidered on tulle—in all these forms is jet being used. Another pretty style for simple morning *chapeaux* is to have the under-brim of a straw of a contrasting colour—thus a grey chip will have a blue under-brim slightly turned up, the only other decoration being a band of swathed blue silk. Another of burnt straw was turned up with crimson, the crown encircled by a loose plait of crimson straw. Hats covered all over with flowers look especially fresh and spring-like. A charming model had crown and brim alike entirely concealed by white laburnum intermingled with a few pink roses. Another was a mass of pale green ox-eye daisies with a narrow band of brown velvet ribbon threaded in and out. Lace quilled up into delicious little frills is girlish and dainty. Imagine a white beehive straw encircled by two frills of black lace, one up, the other downwards, the line of juncture being concealed by a wreath of pink rosebuds. To the left side is a large rosette of the lace with a bold cluster of the roses nestling in the centre. Indeed, rather large tightly-arranged clusters of blossoms are quite a feature—they appear on many a hat both simple and ornate. Real lace is being rather extravagantly used, chiefly the coarser kinds. It is not advisable to put much other trimming to compete with the glory of real lace; a *chic* and typical model was a black Leghorn encircled by a loosely folded band of Irish lace mounted on billowy white tulle, the only other trimming being a simple snowy osprey at one side. The dear little motor-bonnets persevere in their effort to get adopted for ordinary use. Here is a regular fascinator. A small yellow straw with sweeping cherry-coloured draperies down the back, strings of the same colour to tie under the chin, and huge imitation black-heart cherries arranged to dangle low behind either ear.

For Slender Waists.

Women whose middle measurement is governed rather by sense than by smartness, are well advised to go in only for simple and unobtrusive belts, but for waists in which the owner takes a decided pride some really original new belts are being produced. Dingle-dangles down the front seem the latest fancy. For instance, a gilt girdle fastening with a jewelled buckle will have four or five gilt tassels hanging from the lower edge of the clasp. Another of white kid had long tassels of the same material reaching almost to the knee. One unique model of pink kid was shaped not only to encircle the waist, but to come down some 5 or 6 inches over the hips at back and sides, fitting neatly and closely as do corsets.

Bottomley's Book is now ready. See page iii. of Cover for a Summary of the Contents.

DEADLY CATARRH
OR
CHRONIC COLD IN THE HEAD.

THOUSANDS OF LIVES IN JEOPARDY—LIABILITY TO DEAFNESS, ASTHMA, or CONSUMPTION.

Just now there is an alarming prevalence of nasal catarrh in the British Isles. This is due largely to the dampness of the climate. Few people, comparatively, understand what this dangerous ailment really is, and yet very few are exempt from its ravages.

It begins with an ordinary cold in the head. This is neglected generally, in the expectation that it will cure itself. Often it becomes what is popularly termed a chronic cold in the head. The delicate membranes of the nasal passages, mouth, and throat become irritated and inflamed, mucus accumulates, there is the need of more or less frequent spitting, headaches are frequent, and the breath smells foully. Later, the involuntary swallowing of the poisonous mucus causes disorders in the stomach, kidneys, and other organs. Asthma, bronchitis, and even dreaded consumption follow in the train of this "chronic cold in the head," which is really nasal catarrh.

Another danger of catarrh is the extension to the organs of hearing, and consequent deafness, also ringing noises in the head.

Precious Time Being Wasted.

Misled by naively-written advertisements, people waste time and money in swallowing blood remedies, tonics, etc., which can never alone effect a cure. The true remedy, recognised by all medical authorities, is direct treatment upon the inflamed membranes. For many years our ablest physicians have worked upon this theory; but, as is conceded by themselves, they are yet far from finding just what is required. But I have found it!

My Straightforward Assertion!

I, Erasmus Colman, declare that I have a perfect and speedy cure for nasal and throat catarrh. It is a home treatment, occupying but a moment or two of one's time daily. The benefit becomes obvious from the first hour. The healing of the diseased condition is gradual, yet speedy and certain. Life again becomes worth the living!

Interrogate Yourself!

If you have any doubt about your ailment, read the following symptoms of Catarrh arranged in the form of questions:

1. Is your voice husky?
2. Is the breath offensive?
3. Is the nose stopped up?
4. Is your hearing affected?
5. Does the nose discharge?
6. Do you snore when asleep?
7. Do crusts form in the nose?
8. Do you have sneezing spells?
9. Is the sense of smell leaving?
10. Do you suffer from headache?
11. Is there fulness in the throat?
12. Do you expectorate frequently?
13. Do you have to clear the throat?
14. Is there dropping of phlegm into the throat?
15. Do you have Nausea and "gagging" with phlegm?

The foregoing and numerous other questions are those to which the sufferer can usually reply with the word "Yes." When such is the case, then let the afflicted person ascertain regarding my system just as quickly as possible.

May be a Fatal Error!

It is a fearful mistake to neglect catarrh. It is quite certain to develop into something worse. It will not cure itself.

The Veritable Cure.

I have the true cure. It is a system of vapourised medication, complemented by other highly effective therapeutic aids. There is nothing complex about it. Anybody can easily understand it. It is a pleasant form of cure. It is permanent.

Not Obtainable Elsewhere.

The Colman method has saved many lives—it may save yours!

I offer a perfectly genuine system of treatment. You cannot obtain it anywhere else, because it is the result of years of study and active experience, coupled with extraordinary ability in this particular line of ailment; therefore, my system is protected, and is obtainable only from me.

Nevertheless, I am a humanitarian, and do not make charges which are only possible for the well-to-do. Any sufferer, regardless of his or her position, can obtain my treatment upon simple and easy terms by confiding in me. I know that I have the complete cure for catarrh and its consequent ills, including asthma, deafness, etc. I want to cure every man, woman, or child that suffers. None need apply to me in vain.

Get it Free!

I invite every reader of *John Bull* to write to me, and obtain my treatise. I make no charge for the book. It explains all. It will be sent in a plain, sealed envelope. Please mention title, such as Rev., Mr., Mrs., Miss, etc. Address: Erasmus Colman (Room 806), 22, Grays Inn Road, London.—[Advt.]

BULL'S EYES.

NOTES OF INTERROGATION:—
Are *we* downhearted?
Is Lord Charles Beresford counted among our available Dreadnoughts?
Why not call them the Can't See Lords?
Does the Premier omit to read Mr. Churchill's speeches because "What the eye doesn't see, etc."?
Is Colonel Cody the right man for the Wright job?
When is John Burns coming home with the milk?
Will hastings to Hastings become popular in the Army?
Does Marie Dressler think that "Absence makes the heart grow fonder"?
Are suggesters of Gen. Sir B. Duff as Lord Kitchener's successor necessarily "Duffers"?
How long will it take the Paris telegraphists to learn the re-Morse code?
Has the Sussex County Cricket Club been presenting C. B. Fry with a testy-monial?

"We must keep up our trousers," said Mr. Boroughs at the Tailors' Parliament recently. We quite agree.

"Fewer Weddings in Germany," we read. They will have to give up calling it the Fatherland.

"The only permanent thing in life is change," says a contemporary. Our experience is that "change" is anything but permanent.

Welshmen wore daffodils instead of leeks on St. David's Day. Is Taffy off his onion?

"London's Increasing Rates.—The Moderates," says the *Star*. Isn't this rather an admission?

The Bradford gentleman, who dragged a basket of eggs from a shop window and danced on them, was evidently determined to trample on the foreign yolk.

The fact that burglars recently stole £3 in farthings from Emmanuel Vicarage, Croydon, seems to indicate that the congregation of that church consists mainly of widows.

Attempts are being made in Devon to exterminate the moorhen. The motto is "No moorhen."

The *Evening Standard*, which speaks of "a heavy *tarpaulin* of snow," evidently takes a dark view of things.

Peter Double kissed a girl and got fined £5 for doing so. A double event.

A College for Flying is proposed. At present, the scheme is in the air.

"Bloodhounds Discover a Clue," we read. At last!

According to the *Mail*, a silk hat revival is in progress. We know men who have been reviving theirs for years.

"No one in France would jest about love," says Madame Perrot. Clearly then, the average Frenchman finds love no joke.

A balloon named *Risque Tout* has been picked up in the North Sea. Our office boy says the trip must have been risky too.

A solicitor engaged at Wandsworth County Court recently, was totally blind. But he saw his way to win his case, all the same.

In a recent Old Bailey case, a witness was named Winkle Winkle. With two capital T's added he would be a capital tease.

"What use am I in Parliament?" asks Mr. J. R. Clynes, M.P. Give it up.

Comfortable Chins.

After shaving, nothing will give such a cool, comfortable, velvety feeling to the chin as ICILMA FLUOR CREAM. Used overnight, it softens the skin, makes shaving easy, and prevents roughness, redness and soreness.

Of all Chemists, 1s. Send 2d. for sample to
ICILMA CO., LTD. (Dept. 5), 14a Rosebery Avenue, LONDON, E.C.

Icilma Fluor Cream

You are adding considerably to the value of your tooth-cleaning by first dipping the brush into a tin of

Calvert's Tooth Powder

Price 6d., 1/-, 1/6 & 2/-. If you prefer to sprinkle the Powder on to the tooth-brush, ask for our new package—a glass jar with sprinkler top, 1/- nett. For trial sample send a penny stamp to F. C. Calvert & Co. (JB Dept.), Manchester.

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BUCHANAN'S POPULAR 'SCOTCH.'

PEARKS' THE BUTTER PEOPLE.

Branches of Pearks' Stores in every Locality.

HEAD OFFICE: 8, DAYER STREET, E.C.

EVERY WOMAN

has within her heart the wish to make her home supremely beautiful. Wisely selected and arranged furniture can do this, but not unless you start on a perfect basis, viz. :—a

PERFECT FLOOR-COVERING.

The most perfect floor-covering obtainable to-day is LI-NOLA, Catesbys' Bordered Cork Lino. It wears longer than any other low-cost floor-coverings, needs no scrubbing, harbours no dust, and always looks clean and bright. Samples and book of designs sent free by post.

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BUY DIRECT FROM FACTORY AND SAVE SHOP PROFITS.

"QUADRANTS" have won TWENTY gold medals for excellence, and are ridden by royalty, and guaranteed TEN YEARS.

An improved, fully equipped, latest pattern model for £3 10s. cash (Agents' shop price, £5 5s.) Monthly payments from 5s.

Write for Free Art Album.

THE QUADRANT CYCLE CO. LTD
(Dept. 5 D), Pelcheill Road, COVENTRY

JOHN BULL'S LETTER BAG.

[The Editor *replies to, and has a chat with, some of his numerous correspondents.*]

NOTICE TO CORRESPONDENTS AND OTHERS.—Will readers, when sending cuttings from newspapers, take care that in each case a sufficient portion is sent to identify the name of the paper and the date of issue?

Correspondents, when referring to previous communications which they may have addressed to us, should always mention the nature of the matter therein referred to—such as whether it related to a legal, financial, insurance, publishing, or general enquiry.

Owing to the great increase in the number of ENQUIRIES *received, consequent upon the abnormal growth in our circulation, it is no longer possible to answer them all in "Letter Bag." The Editor will, however, in special cases, endeavour to reply by post to those correspondents who forward a stamped addressed envelope. When answers already standing in type have been published,* ONLY THOSE OF GENERAL INTEREST *will appear. The Editor will, of course, still be grateful for information, "biscuit" material, newspaper cuttings, etc.*

AUTHORS submitting MSS. for consideration must write names and addresses upon the back of their work.

H R.R. (Manchester) does "not want to be gay, drunken or foolish; he has "a great liking for literary work as a hobby." He wants to know what he can do to improve himself in his spare hours. Why not learn Russian?

"A Regular Reader" sends us the following paragraph:—"There isn't a mother who would not feel proud of her boy—or father, too—in one of our smart boys' suits." He wants to know whether the boy's grandfather would be in his second childhood.

T. R. D. (Gainsborough).—Why, and why not?

Nancy (Uxbridge).—God bless you.

L. C. C. (Barnes).—Never let it be said.

W. W. (Great Bentley).—It certainly sounds rather inconsiderate, but perhaps there was some mistake.

F. S. W. (Ipswich).—Are you not afraid of the law of libel?

F. H. T. (Poplar).—It would not be manners to publish a lady's age, even if we knew it.

"Nancy."—We are glad to hear that the milk was so satisfactory. Three cheers for the little ones!

C. H. W. (Hounslow).—Thanks for the interesting correspondence, which we have handed over to Jim Crow, who takes a special interest in your locality.

T. R. (Swansea).—Your experience is an unusual one. The only thing you can do is to keep on worrying.

A. W. F. W. (Liss).—No doubt the mills were not themselves painted by Constable, but the expression is not unusual.

A. H. (Birkenhead).—*The next* time we go to Spitzbergen, we will find out the length of the day and let you know.

B. T. F. (Swindon).—You are very polite.

F. L. S. (Forest Gate) informs us that whilst passing along Mile End Road he counted forty-two public houses. He must have a strong head.

"An Interested Reader" (Surbiton) wants us to give *London Opinion* a biscuit for something which was obviously intended as a joke. *London Opinion* must try again.

W. W. E. (Marble Arch).—"Beat" is the newspaper's vernacular for "beaten."

T. B. (Chester) wants to know if he has sent his biscuits to the right address or "nott," and "if there is any reward for sending them up or not." The answer to the first question is in the affirmative, to the second in the negative.

A. M. (Aberdeen) writes that "things will have come to a pretty pass when a Royal train stops at a station *en route* in order that the engine *boiler may be refilled.*" Yes, indeed.

A. W. (Acton) wants to know what constitutes the United Kingdom. The answer is obviously Home Rule.

E. W. W. (Leyton) says that if we digest a little more we shall find that our circulation goes up. We do not want to *die just* yet, thanks.

A. W. C. (Sandown, I.W.) has been inspired to verse on the paradise of Eye, which has no loans and no debts, and never had a lawsuit. A. W. C. pleads that it is his first attempt, so we'll deal with him under the First Offenders' Act—provided he behaves in future.

S. H. P. (Liverpool).—We do not see why a locality should not "abound with rare specimens." They are rare elsewhere. A bank abounds with coins which are rare in other places.

M. G. W. P. (Cardiff).—Even Cabinet Ministers may run short of ready money. We have known it happen to ourselves.

J. A. S. (Margate).—It is all right if you spell "reached" correctly.

C. E. W. (Willesden) says that some shaving paste has the pleasing effect of taking off part of the face as well as the fungus.

A. J. B. (Aberystwyth).—If we gave the biscuit to the newspaper we do not quite see how you would enjoy it.

"Eccles."—If you can have a trial of fourteen days you can test the animal for yourself.

F. Q. (Steventon).—We always read sermons with interest.

B. C. S. (Nottingham).—We thought we were pretty good at arithmetic, but your cutting has brought our grey hairs with sorrow to the grave.

DELICIOUS in FLAVOUR
OF DELIGHTFUL AROMA
AND
HARMLESS on ACCOUNT of its ABSOLUTE PURITY

"SANDORIDES LUCANA" CIGARETTES

HIGHEST GRADE VIRGINIA CODE L.V. | SELECTED TURKISH LEAF CODE L.T

IN BOXES OF

100	50	20	10
4'9	2'6	1/-	6d

SOLD BY LEADING TOBACCONISTS EVERYWHERE OR POST FREE FROM
W SANDORIDES & Co LTD
8, OLD BOND ST., LONDON, W.

IF your best friend
tells you that
YARDLEY'S
SHAVING
STICK
is the best he ever used—don't believe him—get one and prove it yourself.

10½d. of all Chemists

YARDLEY & Co., Ltd., STRATFORD, E. "The Stick in the Glass Case."

SCRATCH LOT

It's surprising what a scratch lot of Cutlery you can see on the table in many really good homes. Nearly every knife and fork is a different pattern, and it would be an interesting story how each piece found its way into the family. But a scratch collection spoils the look of the table, and destroys the charm of the meal. You can easily afford a NEW OUTFIT at our Low Factory Prices.

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2/- is the 8 Discount Cash with order.

Merely send 2/6 with your promise to pay nine monthly subscriptions of 2/6, and we deliver NOW our World-famed "Enterprise" Parcel
Made in our own Factory
51 Pieces for 25/-
as described below. The Knives are of Genuine Sheffield Steel, with handsome Ivorette handles, matched in perfect imitation of real African Ivory, and the Spoons & Forks are of Columbian Silver, which is as white as genuine sterling silver and of exquisite polish.

CONTENTS of the "ENTERPRISE" PARCEL

6 Table Knives	6 Tea Spoons	1 Moist Sugar Spn
6 Table Forks	6 Egg Spoons	1 pr. Sugar Tongs
6 Dessert Knives	2 Table Spoons	1 Butter Knife
6 Dessert Forks	2 Salt Spoons	7 days approv, money back if not satisfied
6 Dessert Spoons	2 Mustard Spns	

Catalogue Free We send our Handsomely Illustrated Manufacturers' Catalogue of Genuine Sheffield Cutlery and Plate post free to your address. Pocket Knives, Razors, Work Cases, Cruets, Jam and Butter Dishes, and Specialities for Presents at economical prices. Ask for Catogue H. You save enormously by Direct Factory Supply.

J. B. GRAVES, Ltd., Manufacturers, SHEFFIELD

BOVRIL

ROMANO'S
399 STRAND.
The Paradise of all good gourmets.

NOVEL FINANCE.

Most Ingenious Method for Quick Profits.

Money Made Whether Shares Rise or Fall.

With the increased cost of living, every one nowadays is on the look-out for some way, other than his or her own daily work, by which their incomes can be increased.

Of all the ways and means the most businesslike is, of course, the Stock Exchange. The institution through which enormous fortunes are made out of almost nothing is, and always will be, in the foreground of the public mind, whenever ambitious and enterprising people, who feel that they ought to do something to improve their position instead of being content to live and die in poverty, decide to try their fortune in something new.

The romantic tales of untold wealth acquired from small beginnings on the Stock Exchanges of the world by enterprising individuals, would require libraries of books to relate. Yet, like in every other walk of life, failures are also encountered on the Stock Exchange.

But to every cause there is a reason, and that is why, before going any further, we will examine the reason why some people meet with failure in their Stock Exchange transactions.

It is a well-known fact that dealings in Stocks and Shares are carried out in a hundred and one methods, the most dangerous of which is the purchase of Stocks on Margin without discrimination. This mode is the one adopted most widely, and yet this is the one by which losses are made. Indeed, how is it possible for it to be otherwise? Who is the man or woman who can tell, as a positive fact, what will happen in the future? Who can say what will affect the price of a certain Stock? Often, when everything is in favour of a rise, something unexpected happens, and lo! a heavy drop occurs; unless the Stock is protected by a heavy Margin, the Operator has to close at a total loss.

The natural inference of the above would be, that if a system could be put in operation, which would make a profit when a Stock falls as well as when it rises, all would be well.

Money Whether Rise or Fall.

Here we can see some of our readers, who are not quite familiar with the Stock Markets, smile at the obvious impossibility of such a fact. Yet, we are sorry that we must disappoint such sceptics. We say that there exists a method by which money can be made on the fall of any Stock, and we go even further to say that not only by that system can money be made if the Stock falls, but money is made whether the Stock *rises or falls*—it is immaterial which.

The method in question is called "Double Options." It is a method which has been proved and tried by hard experience with the greatest possible success.

"Double Options," although daily used by the professional element of the Stock Exchange, have only been introduced to the public by the well-known institution—The Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd., within the last few years.

Many people who have lost heavily in the past will, when they read this article, be sorry, no doubt, that they should not have had the opportunity of trying "Double Options" before; but, as the saying goes, "It is never too late to mend," and by sending a postcard to the Managing Director of the Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd., they will at once receive, entirely free of charge, a neat little book giving in detail all particulars concerning "Double Options," with full explanations. This book, which is becoming a household word, clearly shows how a few pounds can make large profits by using a combination of Options for the fall and the rise.

Genius of Money-Making.

The word Genius would not be exaggeration if applied to the inventor of the system of "Double Options." Indeed, what can be more clever than this invention of opening a combination of Options for the fall and for the rise, so that if either of these movements takes place, money is made and not lost?

The greatest merit of the Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd., whose Directors are always on the alert to help the public by the best all-round financial service obtainable, lies in the fact that they have been at great pains to popularise "Double Options" for the benefit of all concerned.

Therefore, the reader of this article who may have lost money in the past can now look forward to the future with confidence. There is at last a means in his hand for making back his losses, and go ahead again and make money. The first thing to do is to send a postcard to the Managing Director of the Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd., in order to obtain as quickly as possible a copy of the book called "Double Options."

The address is:—The Managing Director, The Stock Exchange and Banking Co., Ltd., 7 and 8, Great Winchester Street, E.C.

—[ADVT.]

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Chippendale Style Mahogany Small Chair, splendidly finished and well upholstered
Usual price £1 15 0
£1 1 0

Arm Chair to match
Usual price £2 10 0.
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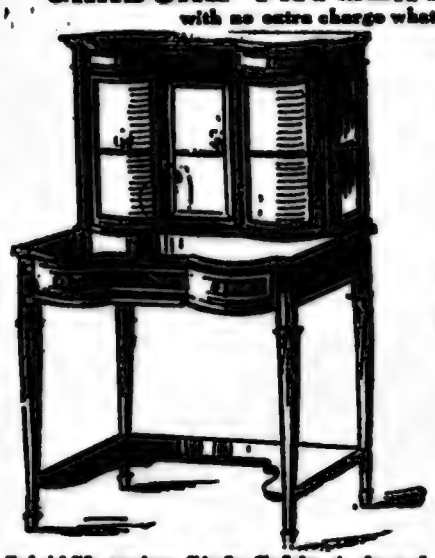

Inlaid Sheraton Style Cabinet, shaped front fitted with drawer, top part with Glass Door and Glass Shelf for display of bric-a-brac. Usual price £5 5 0
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Country Customers Fares to town paid on all Orders of £30 worth and upwards

Country Orders Carriage Paid.
Goods Packed and Delivered Free.
All Goods Marked in Plain Figures.

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5 per Cent. Discount for Cash.

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£20	11 0
£30	17 0
£50	£1 8 0
£100	£2 5 0
£200	£4 10 0
£500	£11 5 0

Any amount pro rata, or by other periodical payments if desired.

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"TOMMY ATKINS" (Birmingham).—Letter duly received and contents noted.

"NURSE P.".—The joke is a very ancient one.

"SANDERSON" (London).—We have made further inquiries since our former answer to another correspondent and find that the Hamburg Clerks' Association (known as the "Verein fur handlungscommis") is a well-established concern which has been in existence since 1858, and has 85,000 members, with a large number of branches in Germany and abroad. Its London branch meets weekly at the Lowenbrau, Wool Exchange, Coleman Street, E.C., and has 600 members. For a subscription of 9s. a year members get many advantages, including copies of a fortnightly paper of commerce. Much good work is done by the society to help distressed members. It is primarily intended for German clerks, and we do not see that any English clerk is likely to get an advantage from membership unless he can go "one better" in commercial work and languages than his capable competitors from across the seas.

A. S. (Tooting).—Thanks for interesting para.

"UNCLE CRIB" (Harlesden).—You cannot have too much of a good thing.

W. A. N. (Battersea).—Why not combine and regulate your own hours?

T. R. W. (Morriston).—The ballot is secret, except that upon a scrutiny ordered by the High Court the votes may be examined, but no details are allowed to be disclosed. This is the only way in which it can be ascertained whether aliens and others not entitled to vote have done so.

A. B. (Bayswater).—You are quite right in your opinion that JOHN BULL is the very best penny book ever published.

A. L. (Aston Manor) wants help in the organisation of a Union to improve the conditions under which barmen and barmaids work. He says that 90 per cent. of them work at least 94 hours per week, and that the average rate of pay is half that of a labourer, viz. 3d. per hour, and at least 50 per cent. of them never get a Sunday off from year's end to year's end. We shall certainly be delighted to do anything we can to further this estimable movement.

"A NURSE" says that it is unfair to compare the expenditure of a hospital, devoted entirely to cases of such a description as cancer, with that of a general hospital such as St. Thomas's, special diet and plentiful dressings being required for that disease. We wish we could believe that there is no room for improvement in hospital management.

F. S. wants to know whether the diplomas of the London Victoria College of Music are of any value.

H. W.—The police seem to have acted harshly, but your friend has anything but a clean record, a fact that would stand in the way of an effective protest.

"CHANTER."—You are mistaken in presuming that Mr. Asquith's undertaking referred only to European Powers. His reference was to the two next strongest Naval Powers, whether they were to be found in Europe or elsewhere.

T. H. R.—We duly received the copy of your Farm Agreement, and agree that it is very one-sided. Many farmers in this country have to rent under conditions quite indefensible, but until the country generally takes more interest in the question of land reform than it does at present, there is not likely to be much improvement in the status of the tenant.

"BANK CLERKS."—Your letter recalls—coupling tiny things with great—Lord Palmerston's observation about Lord Macaulay. "Tom Macaulay," said Lord Palmerston, "would be a very good fellow if he wasn't so damned cocksure about everything." You seem to be quite sure about it, but we are dense enough not to understand why Socialism is the only possible remedy for the grievances of Bank clerks.

P. W. S. (Darlington) picked up some keys and sent them to the Royal Key and Property Registry (Exchange Buildings, Newcastle-on-Tyne), whose label they bore. The Registry sent him a form to fill up, but refused to pay him the promised reward on the ground that the keys had been found in his employers' shop.

C. H. F. (Hong-Kong).—By all means send us biscuits from your local newspapers. We like to exhibit the vastness of our circulation. All your good wishes are heartily reciprocated with interest.

M. C. B. thinks that fly-billposters ought to be punished severely, as it is very difficult to catch them, and he regards it as an intolerable nuisance to have "one's property posted all over during the night by firms requiring advertisement at someone else's expense." Particularly at election time.

E. Y. (Leigh Sinton).—We agree that people should not be convicted on the uncorroborated evidence of policemen.

H. W. (Brondesbury) was much annoyed by seeing a notice in a poultry shop: "British fowls for British people." He thinks this an instance of the growing hatred of foreigners by English tradesmen. But British fowls are better than the frozen variety.

"WILLBOND" (Leicester).—You are no good at cross-examination. Why should not the child have walked downstairs?

C. G. L. (Charlton) says his captain refused him a reference because he would not stay on board an extra day without payment, and that "this is the sort of treatment one may expect in the Merchant Service." But surely he is entitled to his discharge note?

O. C. B. (Ealing) saw a notice in a smoking compartment of the District Railway: "Smoking in this car is prohibited." What did he do?

"BEAU BRITCHES" (Leicester) sends us a piece of garter riband, and says: "If he hasn't got an old hen to give it to, to be made up as garters, tell Jim Crow to strangle himself with it. Let's know if Mrs. Bull would like a piece as well." Thanks, but we have our own process of suffocation.

S. R. O. (Llanelly).—We do not always venture to correct the grammar of some of our correspondents, lest our readers should lose a treat. Besides, it would be rude.

T. J. V. (Dartmouth) considers our public departments "a nest of incompetent and arrogant prigs." We are not sure that we entirely disagree.

Small and Safe Investments
in Continental Securities.

Estd. 1833. SEND FOR PARTICULARS (1d. POSTCARD)

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TEN THOUSAND FREE GUY'S TONIC TREATMENTS
FOR READERS OF "JOHN BULL."

The Managing Proprietor of Guy's Tonic Company writes:—"For "many years it has been my desire to place the complete Guy's Tonic "Treatment in the hands of sufferers without any charge. I have such "confidence in Guy's Tonic, and such personal knowledge of the great "good it accomplishes in all common Ailments, that I welcome the "opportunity that has now arrived. By establishing a 'Health-"Culture' Department I am able to distribute large numbers of com-"plete Guy's Tonic Outfits—the receivers merely paying the actual "cost of postage. Guy's Tonic can now, without expense, be judged "entirely on its merits. By this means I know that the vast circle of "people who know and value Guy's Tonic will be still further enlarged, "and nothing but good will be gained by all concerned."

"THANKS FOR 'FREE TREATMENT.' I FEEL A NEW MAN."

Mr. E. T. Bannister, of Havant Road, North End, Portsmouth, writes on 13th February, 1909:—"I am writing to thank you for Guy's Tonic "Treatment you kindly sent me, and to tell you of the great benefit I "have received from it. I have suffered for a considerable time from "Lack of Energy, Constipation, and Loss of Appetite. I applied for "your Free Treatment, and before I had finished the bottle of Guy's "Tonic I felt a wonderful improvement. I could eat my Meals "without after trouble. I felt eager to get to work in the mornings. "I have taken the bottle of Guy's Tonic, and I may say that I feel a "'new man.' I shall certainly recommend Guy's Tonic to all my friends. "Again I thank you very much, and wish you every success."

FILL IN THIS COUPON.

Every reader of JOHN BULL desirous of receiving relief from any of the following specified forms of ill-health, should put a X against his or her ailment (or ailments) and post the coupon, with three penny stamps enclosed (to pay actual cost of postage of the free parcel). Each applicant will receive a free supply of Guy's Tonic Treatment and two free Health Educational Books.

CUT ALONG DOTTED LINE

Place a X against your Ailment or Ailments.

Indigestion	Palpitation	Weak Kidneys
Flatulence	Constipation	Anæmia
Coated Tongue	Biliousness	Rheumatism
Poor Appetite	Sick Headache	Nerve Weakness
Pain after Food	Want of Energy	Depression
Neuralgia	Backache	Weakness

I (name in full) .....

Address .....

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B.J.

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desire Free "Guy's Tonic Treatment" for Ailments marked.

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Cut out and send the above form, enclosing three penny stamps to pay actual cost of postage of free parcel. Please write plainly, and carefully address your letter to:—

"Health-Culture" Department, Guy's Tonic Offices, 12, Buckingham Palace Road, London, S.W.

I SAVE YOU POUNDS,
give longer credit — and offer far easier payment terms than anyone else.
Thousands of brand new SWIFT, HUMBER, COVENTRY-CHALLENGE, TRIUMPH, PREMIER, PROGRESS, ROVER, RUDGE-WHITWORTH, CENTAUR and SINGER cycles always in stock.
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THE WORLD'S LARGEST CYCLE DEALER
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No More MOTOR CARS! To buy a Bike from
12 Years' Guarantee

What is Your Number?

See page ii of cover.

RUBBER HEELS
Counsel: If they are the PENNA they are the BEST!
PENNA HEEL
FROM ALL SHOEMAKERS.
WRITE FOR FREE PAMPHLET TO
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For modern office use AZURYTE is incomparable as a Writing fluid.
Try it in your Fountain Pen.
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FREE. 30 ASSORTED SAMPLES 2D

ALEXINE.

MANY PEOPLE ARE FORCED TO EAT TOO MUCH in order to eat enough.

What you eat—how much you eat—or even how much you digest—is not the whole question.

By stimulating your appetite and aiding your digestion you may be only overloading your system with waste products.

ALEXINE will enable you to "get all the good out of your food." It is neither a food nor a medicine, but an aid to Nature.

The active principle of ALEXINE is free phosphoric acid which acts upon the otherwise insoluble phosphates in your food and in your system, and enables your brain, your nerves and your muscle to take them up and make use of them.

Of all Chemists and Druggists.

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IMPROVED J PEN.

The "Improved J" is the prince of stub points—a very fast writer with a smooth and easy touch. It is only one of the hundreds of perfect pens made by Joseph Gillott; but if you like a broad point, it is the one pen you should try.

SAMPLE CARD of Highest Quality assorted Pens sent post free on receipt of 2d. stamps. Sixpenny assorted Sample Box for 6d. stamps. If difficulty in obtaining, pens will be forwarded post free by
JOSEPH GILLOTT & SONS
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Mutual Insurance Society, Ltd. (Founded 1861.)
FIRE, LIFE, HOUSE PURCHASE.
Claims Paid Exceed £5,000,000. Yearly Income Exceeds £1,000,000.
Agents Wanted. **SPECIAL TERMS.**
CHIEF OFFICE:
ROYAL LONDON HOUSE, FINSBURY SQ., E.C.
JOHN PRIOR, HORACE DUFFELL, *Managing Directors.*

No Virginia Cigarettes on the Market—at any Price—can equal
Black Cat Virginia
1904 Crop *Have You tried them?*
10 for 3d. 20 for 6d.

The Man in The Car
Frequently finds that upkeep is
Costing Too Much
If he is desirous of curtailing expense in this direction he will write or call at once for our new copiously illustrated Catalogue—"Everything for the Motorist" which is the most comprehensive Motor Catalogue ever published.
—— WE SEND IT GRATIS AND POST FREE ——
A. W. GAMAGE, Ltd. HOLBORN, LONDON, E.C.
BENETFINK, Ltd. CHEAPSIDE, LONDON, E.C.

W. H. A. (Leicester).—All in good time.

H. N. (Barnsley) saw a cow chewing up a copy of the *Daily Mail*, and wants to know whether that paper is a herb. We offer no opinion about the cow, but we can promise our correspondent that John Bull will not swallow the story.

"Reader W. C." (Sheffield).—You can't prove anything there.

R. T. H. (Putney) sends us a testimonial about a patent medicine, and wants a biscuit for the writer for having implied that her son was married at the age of 15. Of course, it sounds improbable, but who are we that we should give the lie to a lady?

T. C. B. (Poplar).—We agree with you that the sight of two hundred people waiting outside a pawnbroker's shop must be unusual.

H. W. M. (Earlsfield).—It was certainly silly, but perhaps not quite funny enough for a biscuit.

C. M. H. (Pankhurst Road).—You are very bold to jest about such serious subjects.

J. M. (Manchester).—What does it matter?

Mrs. C. M. (Attenborough).—Why?

S. B. W. (Belfast).—Very many people, like the late Mr. Gladstone and Sir Boyle Roche's bird, have been born in a number of places at once.

B. S., Junr.—Your Home Rule scheme is good in parts, like the curate's egg; but years older. Mention it to us again ten years hence.

W. A. C. (St. Boswells).—*Too* Scotch.

L. C. (Kelvedon) wants a biscuit for a newspaper which headed a blank space with the words "latest news." But perhaps there was no late news.

Miss A. C. (Strand).—Money-lenders are usually "impudent," particularly when they don't get paid.

A. L. J. (Worcester).—We are afraid you cannot see it inserted. You have come too late.

H. E. C. (Hunsdon) wants us to give our opinion of a long correspondence about Tariff Reform in a local paper, but we must not bore our readers.

"Red Rover" (St. Ives) wants a Sunday edition of John Bull, but we must not break the Lord's day.

W. A. D. (Seaford).—A case of intelligent anticipation, such as is always permitted to journalists.

"More Folly" (Liscard) wants to know if he shall fight a firm of cycle dealers named M. Moorhouse, of Padiham. Who speaks first?

T. A. (Neath).—How dare you blaspheme!

"Just Cause Or Impediment."—When we quote we quote. In this case we didn't.

G. T. L. (Birmingham) writes: "I am but a recent reader of your delicious weekly, but, oh! Mr. Editor, I worship at your shrine for ever and ever." Amen!

"Regular Reader" (Horsham).—No doubt opportunity is essential to heroism.

A. B. E. C. (Rochester).—Our "usual rates" for purveyors of biscuits are "nix."

"Nyrrocwj" (Waterloo Road).—Why not leave the young lady alone? We hope she escaped service.

N. M. W. (Bristol) wishes there were a satisfactory agency for finding capital for a genuine business. So do we.

"Not in-Work" (Pethnal Green Rd.) asks whether he shall send Goddard & Co., 9, Avenue Rd. Lewisham, 1s. as a deposit on some samples for home work. No, Goddard & Co.'s circular is got up in exactly the same manner as many of the home employment baits upon which we have commented adversely from time to time. Unfortunately, nobody can obtain remunerative employment, at home or otherwise, by paying 1s. to an advertising firm.

Mr. F. Roberts, of 10, Amersham Vale, New Cross, S.E., writes, in reply to a recent paragraph in these columns, stating that he is in no way connected with Huberti & Co., who, he says, are plagiarists. He says his circular distinctly states he does not get berths (which is what we said) —the 1s. being for "information to facilitate the obtaining" of a berth—and begs to differ from our statement that situations on liners hardly ever go to people unknown to the owners. He claims to have hundreds of testimonials from such people. He thinks a correction is due to him. About a year ago, however, interviewed the heads of some of the leading steamship companies in reference to Mr. Roberts' circular. They laughed at it, expressed great indignation at its terms—which they described as grossly misleading—and told us that such berths practically never went to outsiders. If Mr. Roberts will give us the names and ships of the various persons who obtained berths through information obtained from him, we shall be very pleased to investigate the matter further.

Mr. Jas. Alexander writes pointing out that the publishers of his pamphlet, "Ecclesiastical Finance Reform and City Churches," are Messrs. Unwin Bros. Ltd., 27 Pilgrim St., E.C. He is preparing a second, illustrated edition of this instructive little work. The price is 2d.

"Stockport" (Cheadle).—What was your question about the bells? We receive so many letters that we cannot remember them all.

(*We regret we are obliged to hold over a large number of replies.*)

By Royal Warrant,

CEREBOS

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Pure, Wholesome and Beneficial.

R. R. NEEDHAM & CO.

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Negotiate the Purchase and Sale of all descriptions of Stocks and Shares at CLOSE DEALING PRICES, whether for Investment or Fortnightly Account.

Those with spare Capital should now buy

El Oro Mining and Railway Shares.

The Reasons for this advice are stated in our "Market Review," sent free on application.

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To ensure a clean and comfortable shave use good shaving soap, such as either the OATINE SHAVING CREAM (in tubes) or the OATINE SHAVING STICK, both of which are British-made, and most carefully prepared for the purpose, the cream giving a heavy, and the stick a lighter, close-lying lather, but being alike in this, that both give a free, smooth, lasting and agreeable lather that will not dry on the face. If you have not tried either of the OATINE SOAPS for shaving do so without delay.

To relieve the irritation caused by shaving there is nothing so effective as OATINE CREAM, which possesses special healing properties; it should be applied immediately after shaving, and should be gently rubbed into the skin, or, better still, rubbed into the beard overnight or before the morning shave. This has the effect of softening the beard in a most astonishing manner.

Free Samples

of OATINE CREAM and OATINE SOAP will be sent to all applicants, together with a copy of our booklet, or send 3d. for a box containing samples of eight different preparations.

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(28th EDITION).

Call Options thoroughly explained, also all Stock Exchange operations; how to open account with limited risk; how to avoid brokers' commissions. Contains highest and lowest sales for last 15 years.

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BY SPECIAL APPOINTMENTS

TO H.M. THE KING.

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TO H.I.M. THE GERMAN EMPEROR.

Growers of the Finest Tea the World can Produce.

NO MIDDLEMEN'S PROFITS.

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Direct from the Tea Gardens to the Teapot.

Sole Proprietors of many of the most famous Tea, Coffee and Cocoa Estates in Ceylon, covering thousands of acres.

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CHIEF OFFICES:

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BRANCHES & AGENCIES EVERYWHERE.

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THE

LARGEST SALE IN THE WORLD

BAD LEGS

THE NEW METHOD OF TREATMENT.

By the Tremol method of treating your leg, you are cured without a particle of Pain, without a moment's Rest, without Neglecting your work for one single instant, and without the Possibility of a Failure, because this new method permits of no Relapse, and you are cured to Stay Cured for all time. But this is not all. Every form of Bad Legs succumbs to this New Treatment. Varicose Ulcers melt away, and combined with Varicose Veins disappear. Eczema Vanishes. Swollen and Painful Legs become painless. Diseased Bone comes away. Tubercular Bone and Ulcers heal up. Inflammation and Irritation become things of the past.

THE REASON WHY.

Why is this? Because Tremol Treatment is unlike all other Treatments, for it attacks and removes the cause, and if your case is taken in hand—for if it is incurable it will not be accepted—it will be separately and specially prescribed for and attended to until your cure is completed, and while you are applying the Treatment in your own home. This no other treatment even pretends to do, for in other so-called treatments the same thing is applied to every one alike, and there it ends.

£1,000 CHALLENGE.

One Thousand Pounds will be paid to any Doctor, Specialist, Herbalist, Chemist, Medicine Proprietor, Infirmary, or Institution, or to any person who pretends to the cure of Bad Legs, who can satisfactorily prove to independent witnesses that he or she can permanently cure even half the number of cases that Tremol cures. This challenge holds good for a thousand cases from this date henceforth.

NOTE THIS SPECIAL OFFER.

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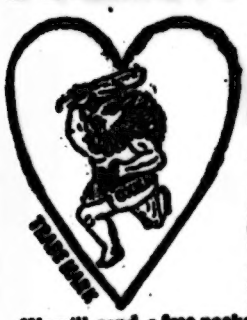

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RACING NOTES.

By W. Lotinga.
("Larry Lynx" of "The People," and "Magpie" of "The Globe.")

Prophetic.

The Lincoln running must have a big influence upon some of the Liverpool racing while these notes are in the press, as was the case last week, when Judas, selected as the best investment of the week at Kempton, ran, in the interim, at Derby and earned a 12 lb. penalty, without which he would have won the Sunbury Steeplechase Handicap by 50 yards. How the little mare runs in Tuesday's big handicap must govern everything, but if not penalized or utterly disgraced I can quite see

VELVET

gaining the Earl of Sefton's Plate on Saturday.

Whichever Gore runs, possibly MOUNT PROSPECT'S FORTUNE, should take the Champion Steeplechase, while, specially reserved for it from Kempton, RELISH has an undeniable chance of atoning for a very great deal of ill-luck in the Hurdle Handicap.

To-day (Thursday)

STAR OF DOON

will win the Liverpool Spring Cup unless fulfilling one of his other two engagements during the week; he is a useful if not a good horse, and will gain a big advantage on the score of condition.

As regard the National, excepting that I am *opposed* to Lutteur III., there can be nothing said with confidence, for the luck of the race among such a very bad lot of horses will absolutely decide the issue. Although not perhaps quite what he might be in himself,

ASCETIC'S SILVER

is much more likely to keep galloping and jumping than anything else in the field, although Gore will not hear of the defeat of the diminutive SHADY GIRL, whose size, perhaps, and the fact that she has *never* been over the Liverpool country, are the only things against her.

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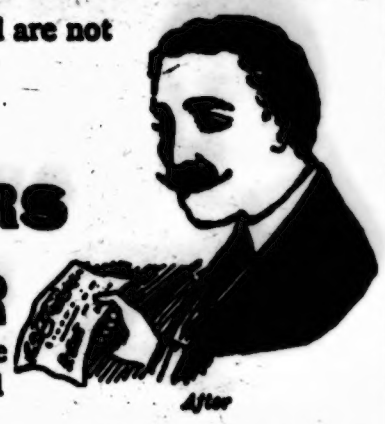

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